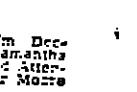


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## HOME NEWS

# Board to publish safety analysis of nuclear power stations after criticism of unnecessary secrecy

By Pearce Wright  
Science Editor

The safety analyses for individual nuclear power stations are to be published for the first time by the Central Electricity Generating Board. That important change of procedure could go a long way to meeting criticisms about unnecessary secrecy.

The issue was the subject of an early day motion tabled in the Commons on Monday calling on the Government "for the immediate release not of any abridged summary, but of the full set of unabridged safety reports on the pressurized water reactor and the advanced gas-cooled reactor".

The board's action will satisfy a large part of the request, but not in total. The start will be early next year with safety reports covering the second advanced gas-cooled reactor, to be built at Heysham, Lancashire, and an identical system at Torness, Scotland.

Planning approval has been given for both sites. The final stage before work starts on both stations, in the spring, is to obtain a licence from the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate based on a pre-construction safety report.

The generating board's intention is to publish a shortened version. The full documentation

of a safety analysis for an advanced gas-cooled reactor would probably be issued if proposals for a nuclear power station at Portskewett, south Wales, are pursued.

Mr R. R. Matthews, director of health and safety for the board, said yesterday that it was a matter of feeling a way to the best method of providing information which was often in highly technical form.

Commercial confidentiality and the security of plant has to be considered. But he believed those aspects could be resolved by indicating clearly the nature of sensitive information which was left out of a public report. The safety documents consist of several reports, some are related only to a particular site under examination. In addition, safety analysis is a continuous process even for a specific type of reactor, allowing for advances in design and for refinements in the methods of fault analysis.

The need to prepare the full safety documents for the pressurized water reactor for which Government approval was given yesterday, is regarded as an inevitable requirement for the public inquiry.

No design or safety documents appropriate to a pressurized water reactor for construction on a CEB site have yet been prepared.

The probable terms of a public inquiry into a pressurized water reactor station, to be built at Sizewell, Suffolk, form the subject for one of the most critical of the opposition voices to the atomic power programme.

A joint letter from the Friends of the Earth and the Council for the Protection of Rural England to the Government points to irreconcilable differences between the scope of a public inquiry and the type of assessment that is needed for such immense technological programmes.

Our Political Staff writes: Implications of the Government's latest statement on the nuclear power programme are to be investigated by the new Commons Select Committee on Energy.

The committee stated yesterday that it will examine the energy projections and the assumptions about contributions from other sources on which the future role of nuclear power has been based; the safety, operational and industrial issues raised by pressurized water reactors; the best methods by which the final decision should be reached in the interests of public accountability and information; and the implications of the proposed reorganization of the nuclear power industry.

## 10,000 fewer training places for unemployed

By David Felton  
Labour Reporter

Government instructions to the Manpower Services Commission to reduce its staff by 3,400 in the next two to three years will mean that there will be 10,000 fewer places for training unemployed people, the commission said last night.

The cuts, which amount to 12.7 per cent of the commission's 26,700 employees, are allied to a planned saving of £150m next financial year.

Unions reacted angrily to the announcement, and the Civil and Public Services Association called the cuts "savage attacks on the very basis for continuing service to the unemployed".

The TUC general council yesterday discussed the cuts and afterwards issued a statement saying it would "lead to a reduction in range and scale of MSC activity in the early 80s when the MSC's own labour market analysis shows that employment and training services should be expanding rather than contracting, as unemployment increases and technological and industrial change accelerates".

The first aim to feel the cuts will be the Training Opportunities Programme, where the number of places available will be reduced from 60,000 to 70,000.

The commission plans a switch of resources in its four-year plan, which is presented to the Government for approval. It is recommending an increase next year of 10,000 to 260,000 in the number of places available under the Youth Opportunities Programme for training and work experience.

Other changes planned are in the general employment service, where the commission is considering merging the Professional and Executive Recruitment section with the general service.

The commission said the cuts were bound to have an effect on groups of people less able to withstand the problems of unemployment such as the unskilled worker, ethnic minorities, the elderly and the disabled.

There will probably be changes in the Skillcentre network, cuts in advisory services and staff reductions in the advisory and executive recruitment sections with the general service.

The commission said the cuts were bound to have an effect on groups of people less able to withstand the problems of unemployment such as the unskilled worker, ethnic minorities, the elderly and the disabled.

Commission officials are seeking an early meeting with Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, to stress the dangers involved in the cuts at a time when employment prospects were "dismal".

The commission will also request support from the European Social Fund.

## Crisis in the steel towns 4—How Millom coped with closure 11 years ago

### Light industry and commuting help recovery

From John Chertret  
Millom, Cumbria

It all happened to Millom 11 years ago. The closure of the Millom iron works, just five weeks after a report in a local newspaper was confirmed by the management, involved only 600 jobs but proportionately it was just as great a shock to a population of 7,000, all dependent on the one industry, as any of the impending events in Port Talbot and Consett and elsewhere.

The unemployment rate is officially between 9 and 10 per cent of the insured population, which means that there are about 150 men and 150 women without jobs. These statistics do not really put the place in the "distressed area" class.

Long, consistent efforts by 11 different agencies including the Cumbria County Council, the County Council, the "new" Cumbria County Council, various government departments and a Millom Action Group have made arrangements since 1968 for Millom people to make such things as small hoverscraft, speed boats, ladies' tights, shoes, and boxes for precious jewellery.

A significant effect of the closure of the iron works has

been to force about 1,000 of the male breadwinners (and such a term is still acceptable in West Cumbria) to get up early every morning and travel by train, bus or shared car either to the Windscale nuclear energy plant, 20 miles to the north or around the Duddon estuary to the Vickers shipyard at Barrow-in-Furness.

To the ears of those who live around and work in communities such as Greater Manchester, the West Midlands, Tyne and Wear, not to mention London, the idea of a 20- or 30-mile journey to work as a constant feature of life is a little strange. It is not so much a shock to the system as it is to the community.

To a little community like Millom, however, it is a disaster. Mr. Robert Taylor, former member of the District Council and a former principal planning officer in the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, said: "It harms social cohesion, and family life and it is something that the people of the town all together."

Everyone in Millom agrees that they would have been much worse off if it had not been for Windscale which not only provides well-paid indus-

trial jobs with good fringe benefits, but also offers the only training and career opportunities for the high-fliers from the town's comprehensive school. They either obtain a start in a career with British Nuclear Fuels Ltd or they have to leave home altogether.

Mr Peter Finch is in charge of the first factory which was established after the iron works shut. Drum Closures Ltd, a highly specialized factory employing 45 people making the snap-on rings which seal almost every circular container of every commodity from lubricating oil to dynamite used in this country. He says he was one of the lucky ones.

He was in charge of a maintenance department at the iron works and had been there for 20 years. For six months he had to travel 60 miles to work, then his present employers opened their plant in the last surviving buildings of the Millom Remate Company.

"The people I felt sorry for were the skilled blastfurnace workers," he said. "They were the aristocrats of their industry and overnight they were on the job market as labourers."

Most of those aristocrats, it

seems, have settled down to those daily long-hauls to Wind-scale or Barrow but many are nearing retirement. One who preferred not to be identified did say: "At the time, it seemed as though the end of our world had come, but looking back those jobs in the old iron works were not all that great."

"It was hard, dirty work and we did not earn all that much. Perhaps it has all turned out for the best even if we do have to read an hour or two in trains or cars every day."

Two rather remarkable things happened at Millom when the iron works closed. Few of the town's iron-fundis, because all the thirty wives drew out their savings for the rainy day they thought had come.

Mr Peter Cross, a Cumbria County Councillor and the acknowledged "father" of the town, had a message for places like Consett: "We have fought back, we will go on fighting back. It is a long, slow business, but I think we are winning."

Concluded

## Dismissed police chief wins claim

From Our Correspondent  
Dublin

Mr Edmund Garvey, the former head of the Irish Republic's police force, who was dismissed by the Minister of Justice in January, 1978, was awarded damages against the State of £1,700 in the High Court in Dublin yesterday.

The court had decided at a previous hearing that Mr Garvey had been wrongfully dismissed and the Supreme Court had rejected a State appeal against the decision.

Former Commissioner Garvey was dismissed by Mr Gerry Collins, the Minister of Justice, after he refused to tender his resignation. Relations between Mr Garvey and the Fianna Fail Government, which swept to power in June, 1977, had been noticeably cool.

The total award made to Mr Garvey included an agreed figure of £1,204 for loss of interest by not receiving his salary from the time of his removal from office until he officially resigned last May.

## Orangemen prepare mass demonstration in Ulster

From Christopher Thomas  
Belfast

Ulster's Orangemen are preparing a mass demonstration in the centre of Belfast as their answer to the Government's attempt to hand back powers to the province.

The protest has been timed to influence the outcome of present political manoeuvrings which probably will result in an attempt to establish an elected assembly next year, whether by agreement or imposition.

The Orangemen believe the Government will announce its intentions in the spring, and have called the demonstration for March 15—two days before St Patrick's Day.

The main messages will be on security and the principle of one equal vote to each citizen. There will be strong emphasis on the need to improve the effectiveness of the locally recruited, part-time police and soldiers to release the regular Army for intensive border security duties.

The Orangemen want more men in the Ulster Defence Regiment and the police reservists and believe they should be more effectively deployed.

The idea of shifting more troops to the border has a strong propaganda appeal, the Orangemen say. It could help to dispel the belief abroad, especially in America, that the British troops are "occupying" Ulster.

Meanwhile, the Ulster Defence Association declared its support for special category status for IRA prisoners.

Mr Andy Tyrrie, head of the UDA, the largest "loyalist" paramilitary group in Ulster, told the *Cork Examiner*: "They are different prisoners. There are special circumstances, special police, a special everything. Whether I agree with republican ideas or not I have to accept that these people are fighting for what they believe in."

Six loyalists are refusing to work, wear prison clothing or take exercise in the Maze prison near Belfast in support of special category status which was withdrawn for offences committed after March, 1976.

In the same prison, in three of the eight H-blocks, 380 Republican prisoners are on "dirty protest".

## Changing working-class views vital in education

By Diana Geddes

Changes in working-class attitudes were far more important in determining a future of higher education than changes in the birth rate, Professor E. G. Edwards, of Bradford University, told a conference in Brighton yesterday.

He said the Department of Education and Science was obsessed with birth rate fluctuations, leading to variations in the size of the 18-year-old age group.

His study of higher education growth rates over the past 100 years suggested that the size of the age group belonging to the managerial and professional classes that was determined mainly by social mobility rates, not birth rates.

Those social classes had been expanding much faster than the population as a whole, and the fluctuations in their growth rate was closely similar to the changes in the growth rate of higher education in the corresponding periods.

Speaking at the annual conference of the Society for Research into Higher Education, Professor Edwards said that from 1860 to about 1955 higher education had expanded at a fairly uniform rate, doubling in size every 25 years. From 1955 to 1970, the doubling period had dropped to about eight years.

## Science undergraduates favourites for firsts

By Our Education  
Correspondent

Undergraduates reading science or technology subjects are more than three times more likely to be awarded a first-class degree than those reading social science subjects, although their average A level qualifications are of an almost identical standard.

Mr Thomas Bourner, a lecturer at Middlesex Polytechnic, presented the results of his analysis of first degree classifications and entry qualifications to universities, polytechnics and other maintained colleges during the period 1971-75, at the annual conference of the Society for Research into Higher Education, in Brighton yesterday.

At universities, 13 per cent

of science and technology students were awarded a first-class degree, compared with 7 per cent of arts students, and 4.4 per cent of social science students.

Their average A level "scores" on entering university were 9.56 (science and technology), 10.53 (arts) and 9.86 (social science). The score is obtained by allocating five points to a grade A, four to a grade B, three to a C, and so on.

In polytechnics and other public sector colleges, 9.6 per cent of science and technology students obtained first-class degrees—double the proportion of first-class arts degrees (4.8 per cent), and five times the proportion of first-class degrees in the social sciences.

## Third mine victim

A third miner died in hospital today after last week's accident at the Kilmorychey mine, near West Wick, Wexford.

He was Mr Michael Monaghan, aged 40, of Underwood Avenue, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley.

## Former mayor is fined

Sir Malby Crofton, former mayor of Kensington and Chelsea and a Greater London Councillor, was fined £10 by Bow Street magistrates, London, yesterday with £5 costs for failing to pay a parking fine.

## Insulation scheme is criticized

From Our Correspondent  
Glasgow

Poor people, who most need help in insulating their homes, are the least likely to apply for the state's insulation grant scheme, the National Consumer Council said today.

A big obstacle is that the poor cannot afford to pay their share of the bill, particularly elderly or infirm people who have to pay a deposit. In their case, the £50 maximum grant may cover less than half the cost of loft insulation. Consequently many of the poorest households are not applying for grants.

Unless the Government makes more financial help available, applications for the grant are unlikely to increase substantially, even though better publicity may help, the NCC says.

It bases its findings on the preliminary results of research which has been carrying out into the operation and effectiveness of the Homes Insulation Scheme 1978. The full results will be published next year.

Surveys show that in many cases the poorest households, or those living in privately rented accommodation, are not taking up the grant. Jeremy Mitchell, director of the NCC said:

"For example, 34 per cent of households eligible for grants were in the poorest group, according to our survey in September this year. But actual grants to those groups accounted for only 19 per cent of grants paid."

Although about 20 per cent of those eligible were private tenants, a recent survey by the Association of District Councils found that only 10 per cent of grant applications came from private tenants.

Even when pensioners could afford insulation, the job of form-filling, arranging for loft inspection and for the final work to be done, could be more than they felt able to cope with, Mr Mitchell said.

## Increase in cost of milk to be announced today

By Hugh Clayton  
Agriculture Correspondent

A rise in the price of bottled milk will be announced by the Government today. It is expected to increase by 11p a pint to 161p early next year. Milk is almost the only food for which retail prices are fixed by ministers.

The rise was agreed by the Government in the face of heavy lobbying by farmers' unions, who are separate from the increases on other dairy products which will result next year from the latest devaluation of the green pound.

The National Farmers' Union of England and Wales had told ministers that the benefits of the devaluation would reach dairy farmers only if the cost of keeping herds through the winter.

Evidence of a decline in the number of dairy cows convinced ministers that the risk of a drop in milk output outweighed that of a decline in consumption.

## Scottish Labour conference faces many critical motions

From Our Correspondent  
Glasgow

Mrs Helen Liddell, secretary of the Labour Party in Scotland, told a party press conference in Glasgow yesterday that she did not think there would be a "bitter split" among the delegates from constituency parties and affiliated organizations at the annual Scottish conference of the party next year.

Party organization will be discussed at the conference, which opens on March 7 at Perth and between 400 and 500 delegates are expected to attend.

The debate has not been so acrimonious in Scotland as in other parts of the country, she said. "It has not been so acrimonious as it has been in the columns of the press."

Nonetheless, the conference will be faced with a large number of critical motions, including one from Glasgow Maryhill which says: "At a time when the true principles of this party—democratic socialism—must be put before the people, the party Government, but all extreme wings inside and outside the party who do not accept the fundamental aims and objects of democratic socialism."

Edinburgh District Labour Party and North Edinburgh Constituency Labour Party not only want the party leader to be elected by national conference but by members of the Cabinet as well. Shirley Falkirk and Grangemouth would

like to see the party leader elected by an electoral college.

It also accepts the need for, and the importance of, the general committee, as inquiry into the Labour Party. The constituency party in Kilmarnock, which for years adopted Mr William Ross (now Lord Ross), the former Secretary of State for Scotland, is calling for a "fairer method of electing the party leader."

The Society of Grampian and Allied Trades is to call upon the executive committee to create a permanent press and media office in Scotland to combat "the bias" and to present the Labour Party and trade union point of view.

Perhaps the presence of Mr Alex Kinnon, the party's vice-chairman, who will be attending as fraternal delegate from the national executive in his last year in Scotland before going to fulfil the role of the deputy general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, will add some heat to the debate.

The motions predictably reflect the growing resentment to the Government's economic cuts, with calls for a large campaign to be mounted in Scotland.

Years are expressed that the cuts in public services are people least able to stand them, and at Scotland's substantial unemployment. Central Edinburgh in condemning the cuts, affirms its opposition to all cuts in public spending, "except in defence and on the police."

## Man cleared of rifle killing

From Our Correspondent  
Liverpool

Steven Sidor, aged 26, who admitted having fired a 22 rifle bullet that killed Wendy Wayne, aged 10, at a riding stables at Rainhill, Merseyside, was found not guilty of her manslaughter by a jury at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday. He was discharged.

Mr Sidor, of Banner Hey, Whiston, Merseyside, had told the jury that while shooting with pistols and a rifle at tins at Blundells Hill Farm, Whiston, he saw a starting land on the apex of a barn roof.

"I do not know why I fired at it," he said. "It just landed

and I swung round and took a quick shot. Later, when a friend telephoned to him and told him a little girl had been shot it was obvious to him that it was his bullet.

Mr Michael Maguire, QC, for the defence, said Mr Sidor should not be penalized for a crime when he was only responsible for a one-chance-in-a-million accidental killing.

The court was told that the girl was 500 yards away from the place where Mr Sidor fired the rifle and the bullet struck her behind the ear while she was having a piggyback on another girl, aged 14. She died two hours later.

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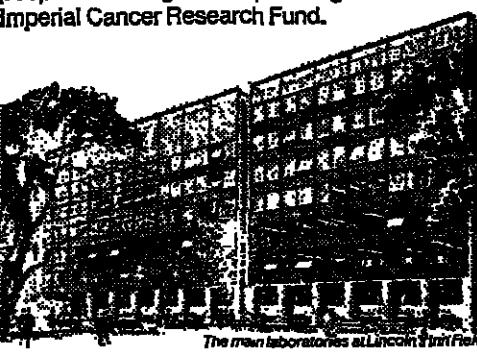
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# FIGHT BACK AGAINST CANCER

It is good to remember that most people live their lives untouched by any form of cancer.

But as all too many are aware, cancer is something that casts its shadow far beyond those it directly affects. That is why so many people think it right to help the urgent work of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.



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One of the ways you can help us NOW

I am sending the sum of £..... as a donation to the scientific work of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

I do not require a receipt (please delete appropriately).

As you are sure to know, a donation made by means of a Covenant allows us to reclaim tax paid, thus increasing our resources at no additional cost to the donor. We have up-to-date details of how to make a Covenant arrangement—if you would like them sent, please put a tick in this box.

Mr/Ms/Miss \_\_\_\_\_

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The Appeals Secretary, Room 24/19  
Imperial Cancer Research Fund, PO Box 123,  
Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PX.



## HOME NEWS

## Complaints of sadism and brutality on Broadmoor patients

By John Roper  
Health Services Correspondent  
Some patients at Broadmoor special hospital are brutally treated, and some staff are intimidated by a small group of bullying nurses, it was said in London yesterday.

Allegations of ill-treatment, including the use of electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), in one case without anaesthetic, known among patients as the "pushbutton" treatment, were made at a press conference given by the National Association for Mental Health's Mind campaign.

Two nurses who recently resigned from the staff, Mr. Colin Byrne, a student nurse at Broadmoor for two years, and Mr. Tony Van Roon, a staff nurse for four years, alleged that 50 of the 500 nursing staff had a "deplorable attitude" to patients and, in the male wing, about ten were "real sadists".

Mr. Tony Sweeney, director of Mind, said successive Secretaries of State knew about the appalling conditions in the special hospitals, Broadmoor, Rampton, Moss Side and Park Lane, but took no action.

The two Broadmoor nurses had been interviewed by a department of Health officials, and Mr. Mind had written to Mr. Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services. His "profoundly unsatisfactory" reply convinced them that nothing would be done unless the matter was made public.

The allegations would rub salt in the wounds of many Broadmoor patients, who were no more oppressed than mental patients in other special hospitals. They were unpopular, with a "proper" system of care, and no one to speak up for them. The allegations required a "urgent re-examination of the system".

A senior consultant psychiatrist at the hospital, it was alleged, had given ECT to a young schizophrenic patient who was held down by six nurses. He was obviously in much pain.

In a catalogue of alleged incidents at Broadmoor, the two nurses say that patients were hit and kicked, had wet towels twisted round their necks and hot and then cold water poured over them.

Patients were put into seclusion or periods of confinement for a month for breaking a minor rule, talking back to a nurse or swearing.

Most patients, it was said, were kept quiet by large doses of drugs. Some received over 1,000 milligrams of meprobital daily.

Mr. Byrne and Mr. Roon were seen by DESS officials. Mr. Byrne said yesterday that he resigned the day after the resignation of a student nurse, who discovered his identity. "I feared physical and psychological reprisals," he said. "I served only one day of my notice."

The "bully boys" on the staff marked any nurse who did not agree with their attitude. A nurse could be isolated and left to cope alone with a difficult patient.

Mr. Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, vice-chairman of the all-party Mental Health Group, said there appeared to be strict codes among staff about what was talked about.

Nurses in the special hospitals belong to the Prison Officers' Association or no organization at all. At Broadmoor some time ago a student nurse tried to see a Royal College of Nursing group. The attempt failed.

The allegations are under police investigation and the DESS last night declined to comment.

## Group seeks welfare pledge from Government

By Pat Healy  
Social Services Correspondent  
MPs are urged today to ask the Government to make plans to reduce the numbers dependent on supplementary benefits or to provide claimants with adequate incomes.

Those points must be raised during the second reading debate today on the Social Security Bill, the Child Poverty Action Group says in a briefing to MPs.

The Bill is intended to reform the supplementary benefits scheme, break the link with earnings for increases in pensions and to give the Government powers to implement the EEC directive on equal treatment for men and women in social security schemes.

The Government has made clear that the Bill will not increase social security expenditure or lead to many people being removed from the supplementary benefits scheme.

In its briefing, the group argues that the Government is ignoring the advice of its officials in introducing a no-cost Bill since any effective reform must cost more. In addition, 1,805,000 claimants will lose money under the Bill and be made to pay for the few improvements it will introduce.

The Government should be asked to say whether it is aiming to reduce dependence on supplementary benefits in the long term and if so how it intends to achieve that aim.

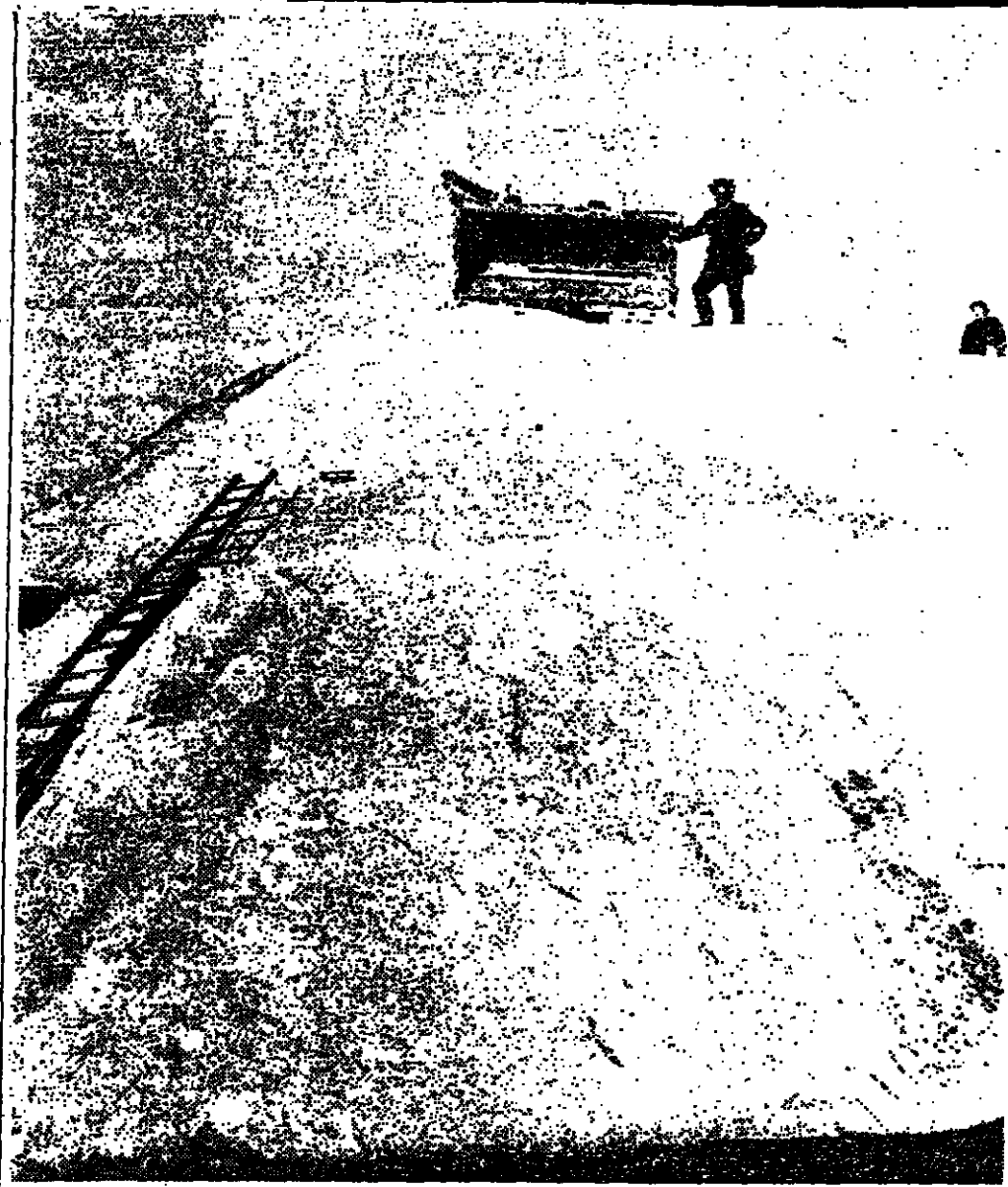
Much of the Bill is based on recommendations in Social Security, the review of the supplementary benefits scheme carried out by officials at the Department of Health and Social Security. The review was strongly criticized by a number of influential bodies, including the Supplementary Benefits Commission.

The action group's briefing draws MPs' attention to the general opposition expressed to the idea that the supplementary benefits scheme should be adapted to a mass role, an idea now to be implemented in the Bill.

"It is inexcusable that the Government has accepted the advice of the SBC and of the DESS civil servants who carried out the review that the highest priority should be given to extending the long-term rate to the unemployed," it says. At the last count there were 215,000 unemployed claimants who had been on supplementary benefits for more than a year; that would be the new qualifying period for the higher long-term rate for all other claimants under pension age.

The Bill is expected to be opposed on second reading today by Labour MPs, mainly because the Bill intends to raise pension increases to price rises. They are also concerned about the changes to the supplementary benefits scheme, particularly the proposal to make local social security officers the determining authority for claims.

Letters, page 13



Greater London Council has 40,000 tons of rock salt, 20ft high and as big as a football pitch, at Edmonton, north London, in case of a big freeze

## Environmental control reduces rate of industry's acute diseases

By Annabel Ferriman  
People at work have rising expectations about their conditions and will no longer tolerate those that were perfectly acceptable 30 years ago, Dr. Kenneth Duncan, Director of Medical Services at the Health and Safety Executive said yesterday.

The incidence of most acute industrial diseases was falling because of environmental control, so occupational health workers in future would look more at ordinary diseases which could have been brought about by working conditions.

Dr. Duncan, who was presenting the Employment Medical Advisory Service's report for 1977 and 1978, said that such degenerative diseases as backache, high blood pressure and bronchitis were increasing. It was worth considering which occupational factors affected them.

Backache and sciatica could be induced by poor lifting techniques. It was common in the retail trade and woodworking. High blood pressure could be related to work with heavy

metals, such as lead, cadmium and mercury. Bronchitis could be connected with jobs that cause lung irritation because of the prevalence of dust.

The incidence of bronchitis among coal miners, however, was probably due more to poor living conditions than their jobs because their wives had the same incidence rate. Pneumoconiosis had been steadily declining because of the reduction of coal dust levels.

Dr. Duncan said that one of the most important tasks the service was undertaking was in establishing acceptable standards of exposure for workers to toxic substances. In the past, not enough trouble had been taken in putting sound biological data into determining such standards.

He said: "If we do not get the science right, the end results will be wrong." The report gives details of the work done in establishing standards for asbestos, asbestos substitutes, lead and carcinogens. It also outlines the survey commissioned by the service on the effects of white asbestos

and the service's own register of all workplace exposure to lead.

It gives examples of the service's case work. During 1977 and 1978 the doctors and nurses advised tattooists on sterile techniques, blacksmiths on how to avoid occupational hernias, and women working in a wallpaper paste factory on how to prevent recurring nose bleeds.

In a prawn-peeling factory it was discovered that the jets of compressed air used for removing meat from prawn tails resulted in the workers suffering respiratory difficulties. The service recommended that the technique be discontinued.

The service also sold 7,000 copies of its booklet Occupational Health Services: The Way Ahead, and examined young people with medical employment difficulties and disabled people through its rehabilitation and fitness for work schemes.

Health and Safety Employment Medical Advisory Service Report 1977-78 (Stationery Office, £1 plus postage. ISBN 0 11 883292 1).

## Gloomy background to housing Bill

By John Young  
Planning Reporter

The Government's housing Bill is to be published today against the gloomiest background for many years. New building in the public and private sectors has shown a steady decline and the present mortgage interest level, although it has brought a rapid halt to price inflation, has entailed considerable hardship and disappointment.

Ministers claim not to be worried unduly by the fall in the number of buildings being started because capital spending is being diverted to renovation schemes. Of that, however, there is little evidence. What is only too clear is that private home improvement has been seriously inhibited by available grants failing to keep pace with inflation, despite last month's relaxation in the eligibility rules.

Although Mr. John Stanley is seen as an amiable and sympathetic minister, the Government's only real initiative in the seven months since it took office has been to affirm its intention to give council tenants a statutory right to buy their homes.

It would also like to extend a similar right to housing association tenants; but there are

difficulties with those associations, about half of which are registered as charities and which are legally unable to permit their beneficiaries to make financial profits.

It would also be impossible apparently to give tenants of non-subsidized associations the right to buy without extending the same right to those who rent their homes from private landlords. Difficulties also arise with associations formed as cooperative or co-ownership projects.

Restrictions are likely to be applied to the sale of council properties in national parks, which would otherwise attract second-home buyers and of houses built for special needs, such as those for the old and handicapped. But fears are discounted that villages will rapidly lose their small stocks of publicly owned homes to rent.

Aside from the predictable opposition of the Labour Party and a section of the house-owning lobby, many people would welcome steps to release more land owned by local authorities and public undertakings for private housing. That would tie in neatly with Mr. Stanley's recent promise to permit councils to guarantee mortgages granted by building societies to first-time buyers.

## Leasehold reformers seek changes to avert crisis

By Tim Jones

Leasehold reform campaigners in Britain are hoping the Government's housing Bill will contain two amendments to the present laws to avoid a cruel housing crisis in big inner city areas. Without those changes, the campaigners say, thousands of people, mainly elderly, face the prospect of being evicted from homes they thought they owned.

The crisis has its roots in the industrial revolution when landlords like Lord Cadogan and Birmingham leased land for builders to erect terraced houses to accommodate workers who served the iron and coalmasters. Those leaseholders' rights and the houses will become the property of the freeholders who are in many cases big pension funds or charitable trusts.

Miss Susan Finch, of the Welsh Leasehold Reform Campaign said: "Under present law many leaseholders are faced with demands of up to £4,000 to buy the freehold and for old people on fixed incomes this is just impossible."

"If they opt to extend the lease for a further 50 years, thereby losing for ever the right to purchase the freehold, they face around rent increases from £4 to £300 a year for a property worth £8,000."

"Many old people who cannot afford the cost of freehold purchase and who cannot afford the new ground rent will cease to own their houses and will become tenants in them. If they are unable financially to put their house in order before it is handed over they face eviction."

That, according to the campaigners, is particularly cruel for some leaseholders who let their properties, realize they have a declining asset and are the most reluctant to carry out repairs or improvements.

Mr. John Brecher, aged 70, has lived in his Cardiff house, owned by a leaseholder, for almost 40 years and three years ago when the landlord died he bought the leasehold, which expires in two years' time.

"I have asked to buy the freehold but was told that it would cost £3,100. There is no way I can raise that kind of money on a pension. I won't know how much I will have to pay in ground rent until the lease expires but people in this area, renewing leases are now being asked to pay more than £150 a year. At the moment I pay £2.60 a year and I am not even sure if I can afford an increase like that. If I cannot I will just have to give up my home in the landowners' and become a tenant."

The reformers say the new Housing Bill must establish the right of every leaseholder to purchase thus amending existing legislation which imposes the necessity of having lived in a property for five out of the past 10 years before the option is open.

They add that it is vital for a formula to be adopted to calculate freehold prices based on the gross market value and not the market value. Under the formula the freehold value of an inner-city terraced house worth £7,000 would be £385 against £1,085 on current valuation practice.

## ston Martin chief in car fire

Mr. John Symonds, chief executive of the Aston Martin company, and Beryl, his wife, were taken to hospital yesterday after their £20,000 Aston Martin car was destroyed by a fire at Deddington, Oxfordshire.

They crawled out in time and were taken to hospital at Banbury.

## Farmers' plea on drink-driving law

The law should be changed to allow farmers disqualified from driving for drinking offences to drive tractors on the road, a branch of the National Farmers' Union says.

A disqualification created undue hardship for a farmer or farmworker, Mr. P. H. Jones told a meeting of Montgomery county branch, Wales.

## Cost of school meals to rise by 5p to 35p in February

By Our Education Correspondent

The price of a school meal is to go up from 30p to 35p on February 4, Mr. Mark Carlisle, QC, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced in the House of Commons yesterday.

The increase will apply to children in all authorities. Exemption for free school meals will remain unchanged.

Yesterday's announcement does not affect the proposed changes in the law which will allow education authorities to charge what they like for a school meal, and which will restrict the statutory entitlement to a free meal to children in families receiving supplementary benefit or family income supplement.

Many authorities have decided to increase their school meal charges to between 40p and 50p from next April; provided the Education Bill, going through its committee stage in the Commons, is law by then.

The 5p increase would produce a saving of £30m a year. The Government hopes that that will help authorities reach the target of £200m savings on school meals and milk in the financial year from April 1980.

The Child Poverty Action Group described the decision as "a further bitter blow for families". School meal charges had gone up by 40 per cent in the last four months, it said. Child benefits were losing value rapidly because of inflation.

Mr. Alistair Layton, chairman of the Association of County Councils' education committee and vice-chairman of the Council of Local Education Authorities, welcomed the decision. Local authorities had been asking Mr. Carlisle for an increase since November.

## Man gets five years for crossbow attack

James Ryan, who was said to have tried to kill his bride's lover with a crossbow, was jailed at Winchester Crown Court yesterday for five years.

The court was told that Mr. Ryan, aged 38, of Blackfriars Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, learnt that his wife Janet, aged 29, slept with her lover, Vivien Sims, six days after their wedding. He was convicted of trying to murder Mr. Sims, aged 39.

After Mr. Sims had told Mr. Ryan to leave the matrimonial home, Mr. Ryan bought the crossbow and bolts, it was stated. Mr. Sims escaped death by inches when Mr. Ryan fired the bow.

The bolt grazed Mrs. Ryan under the left breast, although Mr. Ryan did not intend harming her. He admitted causing his wife bodily harm, but denied attempting to murder Mr. Sims.

## Naval officer is cleared on drunkenness charge

The captain of a minesweeper who invited senior ratings into his wardroom for drinks while the ship was in harbour at Ardrrossan, Strathclyde, in October, during the exercise Highland Fling, was cleared by a naval court martial at Devonport yesterday of a charge of drunkenness.

Lieutenant-Commander Gordon Hunter, aged 43, a Royal Naval Reserve officer and in civilian life a Bristol traffic engineer, was found guilty of neglecting his duty and sentenced to be severely reprimanded.

It had been alleged that a senior officer from the base at Troon visited the minesweeper Venturer as a result of disturbing reports and found the captain, a junior officer and a senior rating the worse for drink.

Lieutenant-Commander Hunter, who denied being drunk, or neglecting his duty, said there had been no excessive drinking. He said he had invited senior ratings into the wardroom to show some appreciation of their efforts when the minesweeper had trouble with hydraulic equipment.

## Environment tax urged for heavy lorries

By Michael Bailey  
Transport Correspondent

Operators of heavy lorries should be made to pay not only the vehicle's full track costs but also a substantial extra tax on social and environmental grounds, the rail and environmental pressure group, Transport 2000, says in evidence to the Armitage inquiry into road transport.

The Government should also pay the cost of connecting generators of industrial freight to either railways or waterways, and planning policies should attempt to locate freight generators close to rail and water transport.

Heavy lorries are environmentally disastrous and dangerous, Transport 2000 says. During the past 10 years fuel consumption per ton-mile of road freight increased by 8 per cent, Transport 2000 says.

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Happy Christmas Father

A telegram's worth a thousand words.

Even if you've missed the last post for Christmas, you can still send a telegram for delivery by Christmas Day. But please remember the latest time you can send an international telegram is noon December 21st, and for an inland telegram noon December 24th.

In certain countries your message may have to be delivered by phone.







## WEST EUROPE



Parisians' view of the big hole which once was the site of Les Halles and which now is taking a long time to fill.

## Chirac plan for Les Halles unveiled early

by Ian Murray

Another plan for the development of the biggest site in Paris—the site of former markets, Les Halles—is unveiled yesterday by Mr. Jacques Chirac, the Mayor of Paris. Unlike the one scrapped last year, the plan is on a small scale and is meant to harmonize the surrounding buildings and responsibility for development. The site was handed over to the city of Paris and M. Chirac rather than to the State, as was the case with the last plan. The design selected by the Spanish architect, Ricardo Bofill, had into strong opposition on ground of its monumental character on a scale 1 was said to be designed like a monument to the modern era in France.

In cancelling the project M. Chirac knew that he was making a considerable rod for his own back. He has sought to work discreetly since then to pull together a design both worthy of the site and in keeping with the city's finances. He failed to do the work secretly, however, because the Syndicat for Architecture found out what was going on and issued details to the press yesterday, thus forcing M. Chirac to show his plan to a month before he planned to do so. The result is that the model for the new proposed development still lacks a south side, as this has not been completed in M. Chirac's mind. Presumably it will be so by the original unveiling date of January 15. The model so far shows a long housing development along the rue Rambuteau by the French architects, Michel

Ducharme, Christian Larras, Jean-Pierre Minost and Jean Chéron. It is high enough to mask the only building at present above ground level on the site, a 90ft high concrete bunker housing the machinery which provides essential services to the underground arcades built into the huge hole. The design, with bow windows and zinc roofs, is a modern imitation of traditional styles. For the east side along the rue Pierre-Lescot, the fifteenth century drawing up in the past year by the architect Jean Willerval has been accepted. A fantasy of metal vaults and glass-covered pavilions it seems to owe not a little in its inspiration to the wrought-iron market "umbrellas" that were pulled down when the site was first levelled. Their object is to provide a covered and at the same time open setting for

small stalls, restaurants and shops. The garden in the centre designed by Louis Arretche with the cooperation of the sculptor François Lanterne, is to contain pergolas covered with vegetation on a raised terrace along the rue Berger. M. Chirac claimed yesterday that the new design was the result of the work of the best French architects available. He protested strongly that he had in no way taken the place of the professionals in assembling the design, but had merely made decisions at the appropriate moments. The Syndicate of Architecture called its own press conference later to say that in their view M. Chirac had made his decisions at the wrong moments. They complained about the incoherent juxtaposition of designs, and protested about the way in which everything so far had been done in secret.

## Reluctance at Vatican to discuss ban

by Peter Nichols

Dec 19. The best comments on the sanctions against Prof. Hans Küng were made by the Swiss theologian yesterday. Today there is a reluctance to talk about the Vatican and some of the shoulders are seen to be shaking. The Vatican's official hierarchy of the theologians or the view is held that the two sides should provide a mutual stimulus. Put another way, an Italian theologian said today that he has never heard of a Catholic whose faith had been damaged by the writings of a theologian while he knew of many who had reacted strongly against steps of censorship taken by the ecclesiastical authorities. This was one of the hazards which the Pope faced when approving the statement issued yesterday which put an official end to the time being to Father Küng's work as a Catholic theologian. The statement did not attempt an analysis of Father Küng's work but rejected his thinking in line with the church's teaching authority despite several warnings.

Everybody interested in these questions knows that Father Küng is not an easy man for the authorities to deal with. He comes to Rome to launch a new book, but he does not find time (as Professor Edward Schillebeeckx did) to obey the Vatican's summons to appear and answer objections to his views. But that is not the whole picture. Father Küng wrote a long personal letter to the Pope, asking him not to reimpose traditionalist views and behavior on priests. That letter was ignored. The extraordinary element is that Father Küng has not been able to find out whether his letter was ever received by the Pope. The dispute is in essence concerned with the issue of authority in the church which has become the most sensitive point in ecumenical theological discussion, the council said. The action taken against Professor Küng, therefore, cannot be regarded simply as an internal affair of the Roman Catholic Church but has immediate ecumenical repercussions.

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## In brief

## Suspicion over envoy's death

Stockholm, Dec 19.—Two Swedish newspapers said that the death in hospital here on Monday of the Zaire Ambassador to Sweden, Colonel Dong Yemo Mobutu, younger brother of President Mobutu, was accompanied by symptoms typical of poisoning. The Swedish Foreign Ministry said the Ambassador had asked for extra police protection shortly before his death.

## TV strike stopped

Bonn, Dec 19.—A four-hour strike of West German television and radio employees was stopped almost at the last minute tonight by court order.

## Europe tries again

Paris, Dec 19.—A second attempt to launch the European spacecraft Ariane will be made on Sunday, according to a statement from the space centre at Kourou in French Guiana. The first attempt, on Saturday, failed.

## Colour bar fine

Paris, Dec 19.—A French hotel-keeper who refused a room to black American jazz musician, "Champion" Jack Duquesne, was given a two-month suspended prison sentence and a 2,000 franc (260) fine for racial discrimination by a Paris court. She was also ordered to pay damages.

## Terrorist jailed 15 years for Stockholm siege

From Patricia Clough  
Bonn, Dec 19. Siegfried Haag, a leading terrorist and lawyer, was sentenced today to 15 years jail in Stuttgart for his part in a raid on the West German Embassy in Stockholm in April, 1975.

Twelve diplomats and staff members were held hostage in the embassy by terrorists demanding the release of 26 comrades held in West Germany. Two diplomats were shot dead before Swedish police moved in. Haag was found guilty of aiding and abetting the seizure of hostages, the murders and the attempt to put the West German Government under duress. The court found he had not participated in the raid but procured weapons.

## France puts its ministers on horsepower rating

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Dec 19. The joys of motoring for a French civil servant are unlikely ever to be the same again. A long memorandum, aimed at energy saving, has been circulated from the office of M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, setting out strict rules and regulations about what can drive what kind of car and when. From now on, the editor says, no-one below ministerial rank or its equivalent can have a Government car producing more than 7 hp. Ministers, along with the Vice-President of the State Council, the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour, the senior presidents of the Supreme Court of Appeal and

the Audit Office, the prosecutors for these two courts and the Government's own Secretary General are authorized to have cars up to 11 hp but no higher. The rules are not to be confined to Paris. The memorandum has been sent to all the prefects of France to advise them that while they are personally allowed to buy 11 hp cars, everyone else within their jurisdiction will be bound by the 7 hp ruling. M. Barre, who uses an aging 11 hp Citroën DS, is not making it compulsory for the state fleet of 13,912 cars to be changed overnight. This means that the big 15 hp Peugeot 604S and Renault R30s, which are the favourite cars for senior ministers and civil servants, will not disappear until they are in need of replacement.

## OVERSEAS

## Bishop Muzorewa persuaded to sign ceasefire agreement after assurances by Governor

From Nicholas Ashford

Salisbury, Dec 19. Bishop Abel Muzorewa, leader of the United African National Council (UANC), today ended his brief resistance against signing the Lancaster House agreement.

At a meeting Lord Soames, the Governor, assured him there had been no substantive changes in the terms of the ceasefire agreement which was initiated by the leaders of the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance earlier this week.

Bishop Muzorewa, accompanied by members of the former Salisbury Government of national unity and by Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, commander of combined operations, will leave for London tomorrow afternoon. The formal signing is expected to take place on Friday.

Yesterday, Bishop Muzorewa announced he was delaying his return to London until he received clarification of news reports regarding concessions allegedly made by Britain to persuade the Patriotic Front to accept the ceasefire terms. These clarifications now have been made.

Today, Government House, responding to the Bishop's explanation of his delay, issued a statement aimed at correcting "misunderstandings" published in the Rhodesian press about what had taken place in London. The statement said the deci-

sion to increase the number of Patriotic Front fighters from 15 to 16 had been taken after consultation with all delegations at the Lancaster House talks. The statement also said it was incorrect that Lord Soames had been instructed by the British Government to open new assembly areas wherever the Patriotic Front could produce 1,000 or more combatants. These would be created only if guerrillas assembled in numbers greater than could be dealt with at designated assembly places, and were considered unlikely, it added.

Continuing his meetings with the country's political, civil and military leaders, Lord Soames today had his first contact with the internal representatives of the Patriotic Front—Mr Cephas Mupfema representing Zulu and Mr Maurice Nyagumbo representing Shona.

Mr Mupfema said the talks dealt with the continuation of the ban on the Patriotic Front, allegations of intimidation by security force auxiliaries, the delaying of the handing over of party property by the authorities when Zulu and Shona were banned 15 months ago.

Lord Soames gave no firm undertakings but undertook to look into these matters, Mr Mupfema said. He added that Lord Soames told him he would be "firm but impartial". The Zimbabwe Democratic

Party (ZDP) headed by Mr James Chimpenema today presented a petition to Government House calling on Lord Soames to end the payment of salaries and expenses to former ministers, senators and MPs from the last Parliament.

The petition pointed out that, for example, Ministers who remain nominally at their posts but who have handed over their powers to the Governor would continue to draw a salary and expenses based on £19,333 a year and other allowances until independence.

The petition stated that the payment of unearned salaries not only constituted a gross misuse of public funds, but gave the recipients an unfair advantage in the coming election. Mr Chimpenema told a press conference that he and the six ZDP members who sat in the last Parliament would stop receiving their salaries from the end of this month. If Lord Soames failed to take any action he would take the matter to court. He added, Rev Ndabingi Sibhole, Zanu party head of national complaints.

A military statement today announced the deaths of three more white civilians. Two were killed near Penhalonga in the eastern border region, where the army was working, and the third was blown up by a landmine near Bulawayo. The deaths were also reported by one member of the security forces, five black civilians, eight guerrillas and four "collaborators".

## Iran shows little concern at threat of US blockade

From Robert Fisk

Tehran, Dec 19. Tens of thousands of Iranians followed the heavy curfew curfew past the gates of the occupied American Embassy in Tehran today in a display of grief for the Islamic revolution which was murdered in the city yesterday. The funeral mourning of one of Ayatollah Khomeini's closest aides—whose death is regarded by the Revolutionary Council as the word of the American Central Intelligence Agency—might have prompted the mourners to invade the embassy where 50 staff are still being held hostage. But Iranian anger is a carefully controlled phenomenon which usually stops short of outright aggression. Today, for instance, there was no official reaction to reports that the United States was threatening to take a "non-violent military action" against Iran if the hostages were put on trial.

An economic blockade enforced by the American Sixth Fleet—for that is presumably what a "non-violent military action" would principally entail—would halt Iran's exports of oil to Japan and the West, although the oil and gas could still flow through the pipelines to the Soviet Union.

Iran is dependent on its food imports, which cost the country \$1,000m a year and amount to 35 per cent of its sugar, 25 per cent of its rice and 80 per cent of all vegetable oil.

However, the United States—once a principal supplier of foodstuffs when American blockades refused to load ships bound for Iranian harbours, Pakistan and Thailand now export foodstuffs to Iran and the Americans would not want to interfere with land traffic from Pakistan. Likewise, East European imports would continue to flow freely across the frontiers from the Soviet Union and Turkey.

Iran's naval blockade, therefore, while it may look physically impressive—and while it may sound persuasive in the mouth of a White House press spokesman—could take a long time to make any obvious impression on the Iranian economy. Besides, ships which chose to ignore a blockade would face the Americans with an agonising decision: placing a country's territorial waters is one thing—opening fire on unarmed merchant ships is quite another.

The Americans could perhaps jam Iran's telephone and radio systems, but this would be a costly and risky move. The Iranian economy, besides, ships which chose to ignore a blockade would face the Americans with an agonising decision: placing a country's territorial waters is one thing—opening fire on unarmed merchant ships is quite another.

The most pressing communications problem is now must be how the students in the embassy are going to cope with the hundreds of sacks of Christmas mail which have arrived from the United States for the hostages. Among the latest mail to arrive in Tehran is a 10ft by 6ft Christmas card, which appears to have been signed by the entire population of Panama City, Florida.

Students occupying the American Embassy announced on television tonight that Iran's ambassador to Scandinavia, Mr Abbas Amir Entezam, was arrested yesterday on the strength of documents found in the Tehran embassy linking him with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Mr Entezam was Deputy Prime Minister in the provisional government of Mr Mehdi Bazargan, formed after the February revolution. He was released in Tehran last Friday. The students produced documents purporting to show that, before leaving Tehran for Scandinavia, Mr Entezam had declared his willingness to exchange information with the CIA. On the strength of this apparent readiness, the United States, Chargé d'Affaires in Stockholm had been instructed to contact Mr Entezam and arrange for his release, the students alleged—Reuters.

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## Challenge to the doctrine of papal infallibility

Continued from page 1

Professor Küng and the Second Vatican Council and by recent official Roman Catholic agreements on doctrinal points. He added, however, that official pluralism had to moderate the demands of papal authority. Bishop of St Albans, the v. Robert Runcie, the v. shop of Canterbury-elect, did not wish to be discredited from these statements.

He regarded as meeting the criteria for infallibility: the Immaculate Conception, the Assumption, Professor Küng's case was not directed primarily at them, but at what he called "creeping infallibility", the psychological process by which papal pronouncements are regarded as being "almost infallible". His argument centered upon the 1968 papal condemnation of birth control, which was issued with the automatic assumption that it was near enough to all truths to be binding on the consciences of the faithful. This was his classic example of "creeping infallibility". But in his attack on this phenomenon, he argued it necessary to follow the concept of infallibility itself. If the concept of "creeping infallibility" was wrong, so was infallibility itself.

In essence, he was stating that the Catholic Church was divinely guaranteed to be right in general, but never in particular. The Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith explicitly asserted that it was wrong and the church—through the Pope, or through a general council of the church together with the Pope—could, on occasion speak without error. It was not specified which those occasions actually were.

This is the main outstanding issue between Anglicanism and the Roman Catholic Church. The most recent joint statement of the two churches' theological commission identified the issue of the limits of papal authority—both in doctrine and in discipline—as crucial matters, on which the two churches did not see eye to eye. The Anglican representatives, whose views have since been broadly endorsed both by the Lambeth Conference last year and the general synod of the Church of England, accepted that the Bishop of Rome had a unique responsibility in the Christian church to preserve its unity and integrity, but they could not accept the extent of that authority as exemplified in the present centralized structure of the Roman Catholic Church.

Professor Küng's challenge is only one of several different Roman Catholic reinterpretations of papal power.

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## Korchnoi's son jailed for evading military service

Moscow, Dec 19.—Igor

Korchnoi, son of Viktor Korchnoi, Soviet chess grandmaster, was sentenced to two and a half years in a labor camp by a Moscow court today for evading military call-up, his mother said.

Mrs Bela Korchnoi, speaking from her home in Leningrad, said her 28-year-old son, Igor, was not guilty at the trial.

Korchnoi, who defected in The Netherlands in 1976 and now lives in Switzerland, has been campaigning to get perestroika and his son to join him in the West.

was reported by the official news agency Tass in its English service, but the report did not say what sentence was imposed.

He was arrested in Moscow last month after almost a year in hiding.

Mrs Korchnoi, speaking by telephone, said: "The verdict was that Igor was an especially dangerous criminal who must be isolated from society."

"My son told the court that if he was made to suffer for wanting to join his father, then he was prepared to do so. The court said there were no extenuating circumstances."

## Mrs Thatcher gives US lesson in serenity

From James Reston

New York, Dec 19. In her first and all too brief visit to the United States as the prime minister of Great Britain, Mrs Margaret Thatcher gave the political leaders of this country a few things to consider.

To begin with, she demonstrated by her speech to the Foreign Policy Association in New York that the art of political speech is not dead. This we had begun to doubt. But nobody who heard her here or in Washington, including those who reject her Conservative philosophy, could question her ability to use the English language to reduce the diversity and complexity of contemporary problems to a clear identity and to command the attention and respect of her audiences.

Second, she reminded us that it is possible to be the perennial of the 1970s, she called the dangerous decade of the eighties with serenity and even with hope.

The challenges to our security and to our way of life in the coming 10 years, she said, may be more acute than in the seventies, but the leaders of the Western nations would need to be firm, calm and united.

Neither weakness, nor anger nor despair will serve us," she observed. "The problems are daunting, but in my view there is ample reason for optimism."

In fact, inflation is now running in Britain at 17.20 per cent. The basic Government interest rate is now at 17 per cent, mortgages are now costing over 15 per cent, and while the new Prime Minister campaigned as the friend of small entrepreneurs, the borrowing rate for small businesses in Britain is now almost at the 20 per cent level.

These are sobering facts, which outrage the socialists and even trouble many Tories. But it was the spirit of Mrs Thatcher's lectures here that impressed many American listeners who have lately been bewildered by the ambiguities of our own presidential campaign rhetoric.

"The last 10 years have not been a happy period for the Western democracies, domestically or internationally," Mrs Thatcher said. "Self-questioning is essential to the health of any society. But we have perhaps carried it too far—and carried to extremes, it causes paralysis. The time has come when the West, above all Europe and the

United States, must begin to substitute action for introspection. Listening to her bold confidence and even determination, one could not help remembering the distinction between the British parliamentary system and the American presidential system.

Mrs Thatcher has a reliable 43-member majority in the House of Commons. She can insist on support of that majority to transform her policies into law, at least in the early years of her five-year term. Only some spectacular disaster is likely to bring her down.

President Carter, however, with much larger majorities in the House and Senate in Washington, cannot count on or compel the support of his fellow Democratic members under the United States system.

Abroad Mrs Thatcher insisted that it was time for action in the eighties, in order to restore the dynamism to our economies in the West, to modernize the West's defences; to continue to seek agreement with the Soviet Union and its satellites; to help the developing countries to help themselves; to work together to improve the world economy through international trading and financial institutions; to conserve our resources of energy, and to achieve an understanding with the oil producers in such a way that they

benefited. She was eloquent in her support of President Carter's policy, in Iran and highly critical, albeit defiant, of the mocking of the Soviet system, and she emphasized her theme by quoting Walt Whitman at the end of her New York speech.

It takes struggles in life to make strength. It takes fight for principles to make courage. It takes crisis to give courage and singleness of purpose to reach an objective."

Having paid tribute to Whitman's ideals, she concluded: "Let us go down in history as the generation which not only understood what needed to be done but again had the strength, the self-discipline and the resolve to see it through. That is our generation, that is our task for the eighties."

New York Times News Service. Soviet response: Mrs Thatcher's speech showed that Washington and London were now the "trumpets of aggression of the militarist psychosis on the European continent," Tass news agency said (Our Moscow Correspondent writes).

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## OVERSEAS

## Scientists tell Soviet public that fears about safety of nuclear power stations are groundless

From Michael Binyon  
Moscow, Dec 19

The Soviet Union's most senior scientists have again publicly defended nuclear energy and said the country is determined to press ahead with an ambitious programme of nuclear power station construction.

But they disclosed at an unprecedented open press conference yesterday that ordinary Russians living near power stations are worried by the safety issue. Their fears were dismissed as groundless.

Limited public debate on nuclear power began only six weeks ago when a nuclear scientist in the Soviet Academy of Sciences wrote in an influential ideological journal that nuclear power stations used up too much land and water, could be ecologically hazardous and could lead to radiation leaks during the transport of fuel containers.

His article was given wide publicity and suggested there was disagreement in senior Soviet scientific circles over the issue.

Yesterday, however, Professor Anatoly Aleksandrov, president of the academy and the chief advocate of nuclear energy, categorically dismissed all doubts: "There are no insuperable problems in atomic energy," he said. "Atomic energy is one of the safest industrial technologies."

He said nuclear power stations were safer than oil or

coal-fired stations, and posed no threat to the environment or to the population.

He gave a surprisingly sharp rebuttal to a fellow academician, Professor Nikolai Dolzhenko, who wrote in *Kommunist* that there was no guaranteed safe and economic way of disposing of spent nuclear fuel. The academician, he remarked, was a specialist only in reactor-building, not in the broader aspects of nuclear technology.

Professor Aleksandrov told the crowded conference, which included diplomats from Britain and other countries using nuclear energy who had been summoned to hear the Soviet viewpoint, that the Russians intended to develop nuclear energy as rapidly as possible.

At present 5 per cent of electricity is generated by nuclear power. By 1985 this figure would rise to 25 per cent, with atomic stations being built with a capacity of up to 1,500,000 kilowatts.

By the year 2000 nuclear power stations would be sited in every part of the country except where coal was plentiful and cheap to extract or where hydro-electric energy was available. A third of all generation would be from fast-breeder reactors.

Future power stations would also be used to heat towns centrally. Two such stations are being built near Gorki and Voronezh. Professor Aleksandrov ridiculed the suggestion by the distinguished Soviet physicist Peter Kapitza

that they should be sited on remote islands, and he asked how transport and communications would be possible there.

The academician admitted that ordinary Russians were frightened by nuclear energy. He said this fear arose from ignorance and from associations with atomic weapons. But every qualified nuclear scientist in the world knew it was safe to site atomic stations in populated areas, and even near big cities, he asserted.

"There has never been a nuclear accident in the Soviet Union," he said. Western reports of an accident at the Shevchenko fast-breeder station in the Ukraine, one of two now in commission, were untrue.

The *Kommunist* article said the Russians were having difficulties developing fast-breeder reactors, and the programme was at least 15 years behind target.

Until now the Russians have ignored anti-nuclear protests in the West, even by left-wing groups. They have glossed over reports of accidents and blamed Western oil lobbies for artificially exaggerating people's fears.

This position has been increasingly untenable at international conferences, however, and the beginning of a genuine public debate in the country may have been made necessary to authorize scientists to discuss such matters with overseas colleagues.

## US hope of accord on autonomy of Palestinians

From David Cross  
Washington, Dec 19

Mr Sol Linowitz, President Carter's new Middle East envoy, said today there was a "reasonable possibility" that Egypt and Israel would be able to reach agreement on Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank and in Gaza by next May as originally planned.

Mr Linowitz, who was talking to reporters in Washington, returned from his first negotiating mission to Cairo and Jerusalem at the end of last week. He replaced Mr Robert Strauss, who is now chairman of President Carter's reelection campaign.

He said that the agreements reached so far had gone a considerable way towards "fleshing out" what had once been the vague concepts of autonomy and self-government. Moreover, negotiations on less controversial points like the way Jewish settlements should be conducted, which would have been going smoothly for six months.

Mr Linowitz said he was not surprised that Palestinian representatives had so far been unwilling to participate in the talks. While the goal of autonomy remained unclear, the Palestinians were bound not to make any concessions until the goal was clear.

Nevertheless, once the concept of autonomy began to take a clearer form and people could see it was in it for them, Palestinian representatives might well change their minds about taking part in the talks, he said.

Iranians reach front: Major Saad Shaddad, commander of the South Lebanon Army, said today that two contingents of Iranian volunteers had entered Lebanon in the past 24 hours in Syrian Army lorries, which passed border checkpoints without being searched by Lebanese soldiers (Moshe Brilliant writes from Tel Aviv).

As quoted by the Israeli defence forces radio station, the major said one unit had entered in a guerrilla base near Nabatya, which was promptly shelled last night. Unidentified soldiers told him that they saw another Iranian unit this morning crossing the Litani river, the report said.

This was denied by Unifil headquarters. Premier resigned: Mr Modar Bassi, who had been Prime Minister, resigned today and was replaced by the Chief of the Royal Cabinet, Sharif Abdul-Hamid Sharaf.

Mr Sharaf named a new Cabinet which included Ibrahim al-Mufid, the first woman in Jordanian Government since independence.



President Brezhnev welcomes President dos Santos of Angola, at Moscow's Vnukovo airport.

## Mr Brezhnev's working birthday

From Our Own Correspondent  
Moscow, Dec 19

Mr Kossygin, the Soviet Prime Minister, who is reliably reported to be seriously ill after a four-week operation, was nominated for reelection to the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Republic, the equivalent of a local parliament for the country's largest republic.

Mr Kossygin, who is 75, has not been seen in public since mid-October. His daughter said recently in Oslo that her father was seriously ill. He was today nominated for election in

February to a further five-year term.

President Brezhnev was also named as a candidate for a local district in Moscow. He is 73 today, and has been in uncertain health for several years.

No official celebrations have been held to mark the Soviet leader's birthday, which he spent performing official duties in welcoming President Jose

dos Santos to the Soviet Union, this is his first official visit. Angola is linked to the Soviet Union by a treaty of friendship.

President dos Santos took over as Angola's leader after Agostinho Neto, died in Moscow in September. Although he has close personal connections with the Soviet Union, this is his first official visit. Angola is linked to the Soviet Union by a treaty of friendship.

Leading article, page 13

## Israelis on rampage after women hurt by stones

From Moshe Brilliant  
Tel Aviv, Dec 19

The military government identified the injured shoppers as the village Mukhar, who was struck in the stomach, and a doctor who was hit in the back.

The Kiyat Arba spokesman claimed there had been recurrent attacks on traffic but the military government swept the reports under the carpet.

The attack followed the wounding of two Israeli women passengers in a bus that was stoned when it passed Khalkoul on its way from Jerusalem to Kiyat Arba, a Hebron suburb which is a stronghold of the "Gush Emunim" militants.

A spokesman for the Kiyat Arba settlers said today that the raiders were residents of the quarter who had witnessed soldiers' beating a teacher who had been a passenger.

## Former Kenyan police chief held on return

From Our Correspondent  
Nairobi, Dec 19

Mr James Mwangi, a former Kenyan assistant police commissioner, who is alleged to have been linked with a conspiracy to remove leading personalities at the time of the death of President Jomo Kenyatta, was held today when he returned from Switzerland, and was driven away.

He had lived in Geneva for more than a year, after fleeing from Kenya across the border into Sudan soon after President Moi had assumed the presidency.

Mr Charles Njonjo, the Kenyan Attorney General, has since affirmed that a plot to kill leading personalities, including Mr Mwangi, was narrowly averted in 1977.

## Marital law in Turkey extended by two months

From Sinan Fisek  
Ankara, Dec 19

The Turkish Parliament today voted unanimously to extend marital law for two months to 19 of the country's 67 provinces, as training flights in military aircraft over the capital Ankara were suspended.

The flight by the Turkish Air Force had been announced yesterday but some observers said they found the choice of provinces, the smog-filled city of Ankara, and the day of the martial law vote, difficult to explain.

Over the past month, officials of the two largest parties, the multi opposition Republican People's Party of Mr Bulent Ecevit, the former Prime Minister, and the ruling Justice Party of Mr Suleyman Demirel, the Prime Minister, have for the first time expressed doubt about the future of the regime.

Mr Demirel told journalists recently that "martial law must succeed, for if it does not, we are forced to say that we know who will replace us."

Whenever such "threats to the regime" are mentioned, the possibility arises of military intervention, but today, most observers believe it is highly unlikely that the military will choose to play a role in the country's complex political life.

The economy too is still a shambles; municipal and inter-city buses in some areas are no longer working for lack of fuel. People in big cities are still forced to live in ice-cold flats because of a lack of fuel-oil and coal, or to move to the homes of more fortunate friends or relatives, or even to hotels. The hard currency shortage has had as ever, the inflation rate is expected to reach 100 per cent this year, and the International Monetary Fund is reported to be pressing Mr Demirel's Government to devalue the lira, by a further 41 per cent.

But still, the democratic system is working as demonstrated by the results of the election last October. Mr Ecevit's Government defeated and replaced by Mr Demirel's conservative minority cabinet.

With the chances of a transition-style religious uprising seeming to be out of the question in a deepening security, most independent observers are confident that the military, who see their domestic role as the guardians of democracy and secularism, will not pose a threat to the regime.

The relatively low tone of Wednesday's debates in Parliament seemed to show that the Republican People's Party and the Justice Party may soon cooperate in the new political and economic anarchy.

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A world view: Arrigo Levi fears foreign adventures may tempt Kremlin  
Russia's economic ills spell danger for us all

The economic problems which the Soviet Union will face in the 1980s are remarkably similar to those that are haunting the West. The slow growth, reduced efficiency of the economic system and an energy crisis. So far, the Soviet economy has been relatively self-sufficient, therefore less exposed to explosive developments in Third World countries threatening world supplies. It may no longer be so during the 1980s, considering the serious slowdown in Soviet production of oil.

Even now, the Soviet Union's European allies, which have much stronger ties with the world economy, are suffering from the consequences of the oil crisis as seriously as the West, or even more so; their economies have slowed down to a standstill.

But so has the Soviet economy since the early 1960s. The rigid planning system, which has been forecast by Soviet and Western economists since the first decade of this century, has failed to produce the expected growth. The Soviet Union is now down to rates of growth of 2 to 3 per cent a year, for industrial production and national income; this is a disaster for an economy so rich in resources.

Mr Brezhnev's answer to these problems, as detailed in the speech which denounced, with unusual candour, the Soviet economic situation, is just "more of the same": more centralization, more individual responsibility, more "freedom" for people in charge. But in the past that has never improved Soviet economic performance and will not improve it in the future. If the present aged leadership is however unable to "imagine" any real reform of Soviet society, Mr Brezhnev's successors, faced with a further worsening of the economic situation, which appears inevi-

table, will face some agonizing decisions.

Should the inefficiency of the Soviet economic system finally become politically unbearable, Soviet leaders might choose between two different courses. They might adopt economic reforms leading to a diffusion even of political power. Or they might strengthen the system by making it more authoritarian, while looking abroad for relief from domestic pressures.

This is the great fear of Western observers: that a way out of the expected difficulties will be looked for by the Soviet leaders of the post-Brezhnev era, in a search for oil and adventure in the wide world.

The enormous increase of Soviet military power and flexibility, leading to a possible option. Such a choice would be extremely dangerous for the peace of the world.

So far, the Soviet leadership has strongly reaffirmed its right to a revolutionary duty to assist "national liberation movements" everywhere. To the West, this looks like an excuse for expansionist policies. It is possible that the risks of this doctrine may now begin to be understood also by some people in Eastern Europe.

For instance, at a recent meeting of Eastern and Western representatives of authoritative political institutes, the orthodox Soviet view was strongly stated by a Bulgarian participant. The curious point, however, was that he was challenging, by so doing, not the Western participants, but other East European representatives, who appeared to be deeply aware of the interdependence

between their economies and the world market.

Their point of view was that the "greater complexity and inaccessibility in the Third World requires greater solidarity between East and West." The logical consequence of this quite sensible idea is that the Soviet leadership should recognize the need for a fundamental ecological revolution, similar to the one made by Mr Khrushchev when he recognized that the nuclear danger made it imperative to avoid direct conflicts with the West, through "coexistence" and "détente".

The new dangers to world peace and prosperity arise out of the political instability of the Third World make it equally imperative that the Soviet Union should abandon the doctrine of automatic support for revolutionary movements, which are often a threat to vital Western interests. But will the future Soviet leadership be capable of making this prudent choice?

That will depend, to a large extent, on the other choices that will be made, concerning domestic economic and political problems. Unfortunately, we know nothing at all about future Soviet leaders, their names, their ideas, their principles. From this point of view, the Soviet Union remains a total mystery.

It will therefore be wise, for the West, not to rely upon favourable developments in Moscow, which may not come for a long time. To stay independent and free, the West can count only upon its own resources, solidarity and ingenuity.

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## Lesotho families choose exile this Christmas

From Eric Marsden  
Maseru, Lesotho, Dec 19

More violence is feared over Christmas in the mountains of southern Lesotho because many of the gold miners returning home from South Africa for the holiday will find that their families have disappeared.

More than 160 women and 330 children are among about 600 refugees from the Butha Buthe area who have fled across the border into the Orange Free State since the Caledon River in the past two weeks and are being given temporary shelter in Bethlehem.

The Lesotho Government alleges that the women and children were "induced" to flee by agents of the Basuto Congress Party who are waging a guerrilla war against the Government of Chief Leabua Jonathan. Mr Ntsu Mokhehle, the Congress Party leader and veteran nationalist, has said that

his rebellion is spearheaded by 800 men, mostly in Libya, and that up to 1,000 young men are in training in the Lesotho mountains.

Mr Joshua Rakhele, Lesotho's Information Minister, told the Daily that the South African Government was "in collusion" with the rebels and that white farmers and police in the Orange Free State had collaborated in the escape of Congress Party supporters by making lorries available on the Orange Free State side of the river and carrying those who crossed to Bethlehem.

The refugee trek began after a wave of murders of Government supporters in the Butha Buthe district in night attacks by gangs of Congress Party guerrillas. At least 100 people were killed, including a leading chief in retaliation the Government sent the paramilitary police mobile unit into the

mountain villages to track down the killers.

Congress Party leaders, some of whom are among the Bethlehem exiles, maintain that the police opened fire at random and that up to 80 people were killed. This is categorically denied by the Government.

Chief Leabua Jonathan has now declared his intention to hold a new general election, the first in 19 years to replace his son, who died in 1970. He declared a state of emergency in the middle of an election, which was promptly run down to be, without any

Mr Mokhehle, who was arrested for three years by decree but later broadened his Government by including some Congress Party members, who were denounced by the rest of their party. Mr Mokhehle, after a year in detention, was auto exiled, continuing between

Zambia and Botswana.

Though Lesotho is landlocked and its main sources of revenue are the customs and excise duties on goods passing through the South African and the Lesotho borders, Chief Jonathan has been a leading critic of the South African Government, which has supported him for more than a decade.

In the last few weeks there has been a change of tone in pronouncements from Pretoria. A Lesotho leader told me on a visit: "I actually heard an official radio commentary from South Africa claiming that our Government had no democratic mandate and did not have the support of all its people."

The Lesotho authorities have seriously considered "hot pursuit" of Congress Party guerrillas that our Government had no democratic mandate and did not have the support of all its people."

## Gradual return to civilian rule for Argentina

From Our Correspondent  
Buenos Aires, Dec 19

Argentina's military junta, the supreme authority in the country, today published a document, entitled "political bases of the armed forces for the process of national reorganization".

The document of 7,000 words was handed to President Jorge Rafael Videla during a ceremony in the congress building. He was made responsible for carrying out its programme which aims to band Argentina over to civilian rule gradually.

It contains no timetable, however, and the word "election" in the sense of suffrage is carefully avoided. It also refers to the "limits of dissent" within which any participant must work.

Policies will be conducted on a multi party system and party political activity will be resumed when the relevant laws have been worked out.

## El Salvador troops kill peasants in farm siege

San Salvador, Dec 19

Twenty-five farmworkers were killed near here yesterday when National Guard troops stormed a landowner's farm which had been occupied by strikers.

The Army announced that 10 other people were wounded and that it had captured 16 guerrillas belonging to the Trotskyist LP-28 movement in the incident at El Congo, 30 miles east of the capital.

A group of landless peasants had taken over the farm where they worked to press their demands for pay increases, the communiqué said.

Troops used bulldozers to try to convince the occupiers, who were supported by guerrillas, to evacuate the farm. Shots were fired and after a four-hour battle, the authorities counted 25 bodies on the scene, the Army said.

The communiqué said the Government was determined to prevent "illegal occupations

which cause so much harm to the national economy".

The Government threatened yesterday to reestablish a state of siege unless clandestine groups desisted from violent actions.—Agence France-Press.

Tough stance: The incident in El Salvador has in the past been common enough in the country, but many people had hoped there would be no recurrence under the new regime (writes Peter Stafford).

The Government was installed by moderate military men, who promised social and economic reforms and an end to repression. Members of the civilian opposition joined the Government, and it was backed by Washington, afraid of having more radical governments in the region in the aftermath of the Nicaraguan revolution.

Various leftist groups in El Salvador have not accepted the Government and have kept up pressure against it.

The communiqué said the Government was determined to prevent "illegal occupations

## PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

## The University of Hull

## LECTURER IN GEOPHYSICS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Geophysics in the Department of Geophysics, University of Hull. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching courses in Geophysics, and will also be responsible for the supervision of students. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## Dorchester Excavation Committee

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSISTANT

With experience of cemetery excavations and a knowledge of archaeological techniques, the successful candidate will be responsible for the supervision of students. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## GENERAL VACANCIES

## We are leading music shop in Hull

For our technical department a friendly and efficient technician to join our young team. The successful candidate will be responsible for the maintenance of musical instruments. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## RE-SHAPE YOUR FUTURE 1980 THRO' PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS

Recruitment to 25,000 positions. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## FRANCE—Gordon Bleu cook

25-30, urgently required to run small hotel in France. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the hotel. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## MOTOWN—HELP

25-30, urgently required to run small hotel in France. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the hotel. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## Other Appointments appears on page 23

## GENERAL VACANCIES

## OPERA FORUM

Ensemble Director. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## College leavers—2nd jobs

Art and design students taking to college leavers. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the college. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## REQUIRED—AU pair male

For international children's wear retail organization. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the organization. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## 50,000 PLUS APPOINTMENTS

Recruitment to 50,000 positions. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## Area Manager

For international children's wear retail organization. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the organization. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## U.S. MULTINATIONAL COMPANY SEEKS U.K. BASED MARKETING MANAGER

To take charge of new product range, to develop new distribution channels and secure distributors in E.C. Experience in plastic industry of benefit. English-Spanish fluency essential. Apply to J.E. Douglas, DAYTON RUBBER (U.K.) LTD., St. James House, Wellington Road, North, Stockport, SK4 1RU.

## LONDON AND SUBURBAN

BECKENHAM 3 MILES, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 100 sq. ft. garden, 100 sq. ft. garage, 100 sq. ft. driveway. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the property. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## PIMLICO FLATS

25-30, urgently required to run small hotel in France. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the hotel. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## PROPERTY WANTED

Senior Australian Air Force officer. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the property. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

## MALE NURSE/VALET

Permanent position offered for male nurse/vallet. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the property. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## HOUSEKEEPER wanted for old lady

For international children's wear retail organization. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the organization. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## TEMPORARY COOK/PAINTER

For international children's wear retail organization. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the organization. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## AU PAIR BUREAU

For international children's wear retail organization. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the organization. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

For international children's wear retail organization. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the organization. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

For international children's wear retail organization. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the organization. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## COMMERCIAL SERVICES

For international children's wear retail organization. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the organization. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, University of Hull, Hull, Yorkshire HU6 7RX. Closing date: 15th January 1980.

## PRIVATE ROAD AMBULANCE

For international children's wear retail organization. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the organization. The post is full-time, and the salary is £12,000



## OVERSEAS

# Indian Communists paying price of disastrous alliance after failing to find dynamic alternative

on Richard Wigg  
 In the two undynamic Communist parties, in spite of all obvious shortcomings of the party's three main political positions, have strikingly failed to exploit the opportunity of the coming general election to offer a wider electorate a new alternative.

Both parties, led by men as old as the main parties, are demonstrating only old thinking and are reeling to their destruction on the political chessboard and on the social customs, which are rooted in the past.

All this was made plain by the 1977 election in Kerala, where the Communist Party of India (CPI), in its party's local political broadcast last

even this move was resisted by the party's old guard and brought about a split.

With Mr Singh's faltering election chances, those who have been in the Soviet Union's continuing preference for Mrs Gandhi may yet prove shrewd judges of the election outcome than Mr Nambudiri.

The choice of alliance with Mr Singh was the awkward outcome of intense manoeuvring in the CPI as the Janata Government collapsed. Caught between the authoritarianism of Mrs Gandhi and the Hindu communalism of the rump of the Janata Party, the lesser evil, as CPI's theorists see things, could only be an alliance with Mr Singh's Lok Dal.

The CPI, which forms the Government of West Bengal, had hoped that the Lok Dal would help it get a foothold in important states such as Uttar Pradesh and the Punjab.

This has looked out disastrously for the CPI in the Pradesh, where it has only been "allowed" to field one candidate (compared to Lok Dal's 78 in a total of 85 constituencies) and one of a constituency secured to the Communist Party, particularly the CPI, and their failure to develop dynamic programmes at the grassroots over the past few years.

Bihar, the stronghold of the CPI.

The CPI's tactical alliance with Mr Singh is not the only paradox the party has chosen for itself. It espouses the parliamentary road, largely in order to defend its bastions in West Bengal and Kerala, where it is at the head of an amazing coalition of leftist, centrist and communist (Muslims and Christians) parties.

Its leaders privately justify this electoral approach on the grounds they must lead the Indian masses along this road "so long as they believe in it". Yet the theorists disapprove of "Euro-communism".

The party's election manifesto is almost as vague as that of Mrs Gandhi's Congress Party faction.

The Marxist Communist Party's strategy in these elections is modest: to defend West Bengal after hopes of expanding elsewhere have been dashed by its allies, and to try to prevent Mrs Gandhi's return to power—in which case it would probably be among the first victims.

But the Communists' inability to show their election partners in, say, the Punjab that they stand the best chance of winning a new seat is an indication of the party's failure to develop dynamic programmes at the grassroots over the past few years.

## Epidemics feared in Kampuchea camps

From Neil Kelly  
 Bangkok, Dec 19

Epidemics of cholera and bubonic plague are feared among more than half a million Kampuchean refugees who have just moved back into their own country from the Thai border, according to Thai health authorities.

Dr Theppanum Mungmun, dean of the Public Health Science Faculty at Mahidol University in Bangkok, said after a visit to the new encampments that the Kampucheans were living in appalling conditions.

Sanitary arrangements, he said, were inadequate for the numbers of people. Rats, flies and mosquitoes were infesting the sites and food supplies by international aid organisations were being stored in flooded or otherwise unsanitary places.

"The bulk of these people are already ill with malnutrition, malaria and other diseases," he said. "Cholera and even bubonic plague—if something is not done quickly."

The Kampucheans have moved about a mile east of the border during the past 10 days under escort from Thai Army commandos who said they must either move back to Kampuchea or into a Thai refugee camp eight miles from the border.

Almost 90,000 have entered the Thai refugee camp at Khao I Dang.

Conditions in the encampments are much worse than the original border sites from which they fled, with no running water, no latrines and no proper food supplies.

Many of the Kampucheans are using stagnant water from ponds and ditches. Good supplies of safe water provided by relief organisations are available at the border but not many of the Kampucheans have the strength to carry it as far as their new camps.

The aid depend upon food supplied at the border by the Red Cross, the United Nations Children's Fund and other agencies.

One of the camp leaders said that the Thai government had organised a birth control programme for Kampucheans under his leadership and to carry out abortions because pregnant women hampered the fighting against the Vietnamese.

Dr Theppanum said today that 141 Vietnamese, including some soldiers, had been found at the Khao I Dang refugee camp pretending to be Kampucheans.

He said that a boatload of Vietnamese, who said they were refugees when rescued recently of the northern Philippines, turned out to be trying to reach Hong Kong after having already been settled in Manila, officials said.

The story was uncovered when the group of 28 adults and 32 children were rescued early this month after their boat had broken down.—Reuter.

## The rise of the compleat businesswoman



courtesy of the Egg Authority and Milk Marketing Board.

Ann Burdus is small, elegant and successful; and the reigning Times Businesswoman of the year. The award presented last week, is her latest accolade in a memorable year. It reached its peak in April when she was recalled from New York to take over within 24 hours as chairman of McCann and Company, third largest advertising agency in the country.

Aged 46, earning reputed £40,000 a year—amazingly she turns up on the subject of her actual income—Ms Burdus is a very compleat businesswoman despite the industry's finds herself in. Advertising to the outside, she is the home of creative, entrepreneurial talent with the ability to churn out tomorrow's cliché.

Ms Burdus has been through all this from the market research side, but has none the less emerged as the corporate woman.

Advertising, despite the over-glamour, is big business. In the United Kingdom alone advertising expenditure is running around the £1,800m mark and London has a world-wide reputation as the advertising centre in the global advertising scene. So Ann Burdus, as boss of McCann, not only carries the responsibility for an agency with £30m of billings but is also an international ambassador for the industry.

Her background is a degree in psychology from Durham University, a stint as a clinical psychologist in a North-eastern hospital and part-time research writing for a market research company. From there it was a short step into the full-time world of advertising. In 1971, Ann Burdus was invited to join the board of McCann-Erickson as research director.

The move was a decisive one for her career. She and two men were installed as a new team to revitalize the agency. For four years she worked the brief, but in 1975 the time came for her to leave her familiar niche and make a contribution towards the running of the company.

In 1975 the board held a two-day retreat to decide where the agency was going to go. Ms Burdus virtually ran the board and she was the driving force behind the strategy. The new objectives included more agencies within the stable to attract competing business, greater growth and opportunities for career

development. The original 1971 triumvirate all but talked themselves out of a job. Less than three years later they had each moved on.

One of Ann Burdus's many theories of management and success—in which she believes profoundly—is that anyone who wishes to be successful should work for an expanding company. She provided the proof of this theory when she went to New York in 1978 to become director of advertising development and strategic planning for the parent McCann-Erickson International.

In normal circumstances she could have expected to have stayed in the United States for three or more years. However, the abrupt departure of McCann's United Kingdom boss in spring catapulted her back into the hot seat and made her one of the most powerful women in British industry. Powerful not only in her own right as the chief executive of one of the country's major advertising agencies, but also as the ultimate guiding hand behind those campaigns which exhort us to buy more Coca Cola, more Kodak goods, more Levi Strauss jeans, more Gillette blades, more eggs and more milk.

"I've always filled in with more talented people behind me," she points out, "which leaves me free to move on." However, she's honest enough to admit that only the most confident of people could follow such advice. Luck plays its part too, and what she likes to call the "element of stupidity". She's not afraid of opening her mouth, wide, "where a better politician might have been more cautious". Of course, what it boils down to is that she has "never really questioned that my opinions aren't worth hearing".

The firm belief that her views are "as good as anybody else's" make her a supremely self-confident person. That is why she is successful; for she is not a person of hard, clear-cut ambition. In New York she was prepared to wait patiently and see what would come up. The move in the McCann stable which, as part of the much bigger United States International group, has prospects in plenty to offer. Ann Burdus, corporate executive and successful businesswoman who puts in a four-hour day but is still "a fun person to work with", has a long way yet to travel.

Margaret Stone

## Pakistan gets tougher law

Our Correspondent  
 Islamabad, Dec 19

Pakistan has introduced a new law governing defamation which provides for punishment of up to five years imprisonment, or a fine for failing any matter held to be defamatory, even if the statement is found to be true in the public interest.

The new law amends one of more than 100 years which provided exception occasions held to be true in the public interest.

Amendments to articles 1 and 2 of the Pakistan Penal Code will enable police to seize the publisher or editor of any newspaper or magazine containing material with a defamatory statement.

The amendments also provide for the seizure of any newspaper or magazine containing material with a defamatory statement.

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## Veiled threat by Peking of intervention in Thailand

Peking, Dec 19—China today again issued a thinly veiled threat to intervene along the Thai border against Vietnam, which it accused of invading that country.

Mr Han Nianlong, the Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister, told the 15th session of the Sino-Vietnamese talks in Peking: "Now that Vietnam is threatening and invading Thailand, we naturally support Thailand in its resistance against the threat and invasion," the new China news agency reported.

Mr Han was responding to allegations by his Vietnamese counterpart, Mr Dinh Nho Liem, of Sino-Vietnamese "collusion" against Vietnam. Mr Han accused Vietnam of "menacing the peace and security" of the whole of South East Asia through its "continued armed provocations" on the Thai-Kampuchean border.

He added: "If you persist in this reckless course of action, you will be called to account by history and grave consequences will result."

Despite the deadlock, the Sino-Vietnamese talks, which began in Peking last week, to Peking, will go on next year.

The date for the next meeting has not been fixed, Mr Dinh told a press conference today.

At the meeting today, Mr Dinh repeated his proposal for the immediate signing of a Sino-Vietnamese agreement "to refrain from armed provocations" from January 1. Mr Han rejected the proposal as "perfunctory and cheating".

On Kampuchea and Laos, the two negotiators reiterated the respective positions of their countries.

Mr Dinh said that President Fong Samrin's recent visit to Peking had with the help of Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries enabled the People's Republic of Kampuchea to make progress.

He called on China to stop interfering in its "hostile action" in Laos while the Sino-Vietnamese talks were in progress. Vietnam was not prepared to discuss any third country during the negotiations. No progress was made.

During the recent visit to Peking, Mr Mao Shou, China's Foreign Minister, said that the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese Deputy Prime Minister, also spoke indirectly of a possible second "punishment" for Vietnam, which he said had invaded Thailand.—Agence France-Press.

## House of Lords

When a survivor is ineligible for farm tenancy

on v Hall  
 Thompson and

Viscount Dilhorne, Lord of the Manor, Lord Fraser of Carmichael, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Wilford, Lord Goff, Lord Keith of Kington, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brightman, Lord Griffiths, Lord Gwyer, Lord Hodson, Lord Jauncey, Lord Macmillan, Lord Oliver of Ayles, Lord Phillips of Farnham, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Tugendhat, Lord Ungo-Thomas, Lord Upjohn, Lord Viscount, Lord Wainman, Lord Williams of Gormston, Lord Woolf, Lord Young of Colchester, Lord Zuckerman.

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## The Times Cook



Shona Crawford Poole

## ... But once a year

The turkey looks as if it died of exposure. Will it really keep till Tuesday? Are there enough sprouts to go round? Will the milkman remember the cream?

Two extra loaves or three? It is no use asking the family to cater for Christmas, for the first dinner and makes old hands sigh at the prospect.

It is not easy to concentrate either when helpers are laying the table, the cat wants its dinner, the children are over-excited, someone can't find the red tie or the sharp scissors, grandma would like another cup of tea, and a third glass of sherry is unwise.

A list — correction, several lists — of shopping lists, preparation lists, and a timetable of temperatures and cooking times to stick on the kitchen wall.

It is all too easy to run out of something vital like salt or sugar. Do not forget that the bird after it is stuffed that counts when calculating the cooking time. Even storage space can be a problem when feeding a multitude of relatives.

Easy first courses that can be prepared in advance, and last-minute puddings help to make the task more manageable and more fun. A mousse or a terrine makes a light and attractive opening to any Christmas meal. This one is moulded in three layers — smoked salmon, trout and mackerel mousses encased in a thin layer of cream. For a simpler dish use just one kind of smoked fish, and if aspic does not appeal, serve the mousses in individual ramekins. You can, of course, make the turkey on a rack in a well-flavoured fresh fish stock.

## 3 medium cooking apples, peeled and chopped

55g (2oz) blanched almonds, coarsely chopped  
 3 tablespoons chopped parsley  
 1 teaspoon dried marjoram or oregano  
 Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Pull out any lumps of fat still inside the goose and dry it well inside and out. Put the raisins in a bowl and cover them with boiling water. Set them aside to plump up.

Melt the butter in a pan and fry the liver until it is just firm. Take the liver from the pan and set it aside to cool. Fry the onion in the remaining butter until it is soft but not brown.

Chop the liver finely and put it in a large bowl with the onion and butter. Add the bread crumbs, apples, nuts, drained raisins, herbs and a generous seasoning of salt and pepper. Mix the ingredients well and check the seasoning.

Stuff the goose loosely with this mixture. Tuck the parson's nose under the flap of skin above it and close the opening with three or four big stitches. Truss the legs and wings under the bird, tucking in the neck flap skin, or catching it with a stitch if needed. Prick the goose on the legs, sides and lower breast before roasting.

Put the goose breast side up on a rack in a shallow roasting tin and roast in a pre-heated moderate oven (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) for 15 minutes. Turn the bird over breast side down and lower the heat to a moderate oven (140°C/275°F, gas mark 2) for 2 hours. Turn the bird over breast side up and roast for another two to two and a half hours at the same oven heat. Basting is unnecessary. If you serve the goose fat dripping for other dishes.

## Honey basted turkey

Serves ten to twelve  
 1 turkey 4.5kg to 5.4kg (10 to 12lbs) trussed weight  
 Salt and pepper  
 225g (8oz) runny honey  
 110g (4oz) butter

Dry the turkey inside and out and cut off the wingtips for the stockpot. Sew on the inside with salt and pepper. Sew or skewer the large cavity firmly to prevent juices escaping, then tie the legs together with string. For a more decorative touch, round the parson's nose. Pull the neck skin gently down under the back and fasten it with metal skewers or wooden clothes pegs. Set the turkey on a rack in a shallow roasting tin.

Melt together the honey and butter and paint it all over the bird several times until it is well coated. Place the turkey in the middle of a preheated hot oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 7) and roast at this temperature for 30 minutes only, basting once. Reduce the heat to moderate (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) and continue roasting for about 3 hours more, basting the bird at half hourly intervals. The turkey was put in the oven straight from the refrigerator it will take at least an extra half hour. To test whether the bird is cooked, insert a skewer into the thickest part of the leg, near the body. It is ready when the juices run clear. Rack the turkey in the oven with the door open and the heat turned off for about 15 minutes before carving it.

## Goose with fruit and nut stuffing

Serves six to eight  
 1 goose 3.5 to 4.5 kg (8 to 10lbs) trussed weight  
 For the stuffing  
 140g (5oz) seedless raisins  
 45g (1½oz) butter  
 1 goose liver, roughly chopped  
 1 large onion, finely chopped  
 110g (4oz) fresh white bread crumbs

Peel the potatoes, boil them until tender, drain and mash them thoroughly. Beat the

## mashed potato, adding a little milk if it is too stiff to work, and mix in the flour, blending it thoroughly.

Butter a heavy casserole dish, one which has a well fitting lid. Put the potato mixture into the dish, cover it tightly, and bake in a moderate oven (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) for 1½ hours. Check the mixture from time to time, adding a little milk if it appears too dry. This slow cooking will make the potato slightly yellow, and very soft and sweet.

To finish the dish add salt to taste, and pepper, and beat the mixture smooth. Dor the top of the puree with butter and a hake it, uncovered, in a moderately hot oven (190°C/375°F, gas mark 5) for about 20 minutes, or until it is browned on top.

## Whim-wham

Trifle is a traditional Boxing Day and Christmas party pudding. This heavy eighteenth century version is appropriate named a whim-wham. It is child's play to make and can be whipped up at the last moment for unexpected guests.

Serves 6  
 30 g (1 oz) butter  
 110 g (4 oz) flaked almonds  
 1 tablespoon caster sugar  
 18 sponge finger biscuits  
 Juice of 2 oranges or tangerines  
 120 ml (4 fl oz) sweet sherry  
 120 ml (4 fl oz) brandy  
 450 ml (¾ pint) double cream or whipping cream

Melt the butter in a heavy frying pan and fry the almonds over a medium heat until they are golden. Sprinkle them with the sugar and shake the pan over a low heat until it melts. Spread the almonds on a lightly greased plate to cool.

An hour or two before serving put the sponge fingers, broken in halves, into a large serving bowl. Mix the orange juice, sherry and brandy, and pour into the bowl.

Just before serving, whip the cream until it holds a peak. Spoon the cream over the sponge fingers which should by now have absorbed most of the liquid. Sprinkle the top with fried almonds and serve at once.

Report December 19 1979

## When survivor is ineligible for farm tenancy

on v Hall  
 Thompson and

Viscount Dilhorne, Lord of the Manor, Lord Fraser of Carmichael, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Wilford, Lord Goff, Lord Keith of Kington, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brightman, Lord Griffiths, Lord Gwyer, Lord Hodson, Lord Jauncey, Lord Macmillan, Lord Oliver of Ayles, Lord Phillips of Farnham, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Tugendhat, Lord Ungo-Thomas, Lord Upjohn, Lord Viscount, Lord Wainman, Lord Williams of Gormston, Lord Woolf, Lord Young of Colchester, Lord Zuckerman.

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to quit on the sons. The sons lodged an application with the Agricultural Holdings Tribunal for a direction, entitling them to a tenancy in the farm, but as they were in joint occupation of the farm, the tribunal found that the survivor was ineligible for a tenancy of the farm. The tribunal also found that the survivor was ineligible for a tenancy of the farm.

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visitors for the rest of their lives; the conjunction of the words "survivor" and "tenant" in the Act was a clear indication that the point of time to be considered was the time of the death of the tenant. (b) the period to be considered ended at the date of the death; and it would be very odd if condition (c) could be satisfied at a different time.

In agreement with Lord Justice Brandon, his Lordship considered that the words "tenant" and "survivor" in the Act were to be construed as referring to the date of the death of the tenant; the persons then eligible could apply, though eligibility must continue to exist until the date of the death of the tenant. His Lordship did not think that Parliament could ever have intended that a person who was at the date of the death of the tenant, but who was not a tenant at the date of the death, should be eligible to apply for a tenancy of the farm.

The first question depended for its answer on the meaning of "he is not the occupier". If Parliament intended that the survivor should be eligible, why was that not made clear by the words used?

The House had to give effect to Parliament's intention as revealed by the words of the Act. The majority considered that the words "tenant" and "survivor" in the Act were to be construed as referring to the date of the death of the tenant; the persons then eligible could apply, though eligibility must continue to exist until the date of the death of the tenant. His Lordship did not think that Parliament could ever have intended that a person who was at the date of the death of the tenant, but who was not a tenant at the date of the death, should be eligible to apply for a tenancy of the farm.

the occupier" was just another way of saying that the survivor was ineligible for farm tenancy if he was not the sole occupier of the land at the date of the death of the tenant.

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Lord Fraser, concurring in the majority, said that the words "tenant" and "survivor" in the Act were to be construed as referring to the date of the death of the tenant; the persons then eligible could apply, though eligibility must continue to exist until the date of the death of the tenant. His Lordship did not think that Parliament could ever have intended that a person who was at the date of the death of the tenant, but who was not a tenant at the date of the death, should be eligible to apply for a tenancy of the farm.

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Lord Russell, in the Jackson appeal, found himself persuaded by the judgment of Lord Justice Brandon and Lord Fraser, concurring in the majority, that the words "tenant" and "survivor" in the Act were to be construed as referring to the date of the death of the tenant; the persons then eligible could apply, though eligibility must continue to exist until the date of the death of the tenant. His Lordship did not think that Parliament could ever have intended that a person who was at the date of the death of the tenant, but who was not a tenant at the date of the death, should be eligible to apply for a tenancy of the farm.

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Finland's special potato casserole, called *perunajoulut*, is a dish which has been originated with one of those happy accidents which sometimes occur in the kitchen. Its origin is due to a "maling" process during which starch in the potato mixture turns into a simple sugar. In modern kitchens this chemistry takes place in a very slow oven. But it is not hard to imagine a farmer's wife of long ago leaving a dish of mashed potato near her big wood-burning stove while she busied herself with Christmas breadmaking, and discovering that the potato had turned yellow, sweet, and unexpectedly delicious. Its taste is reminiscent of chestnuts.

Potato casserole  
 Serves six to eight  
 1.5 to 2 kilos (3 to 4 lbs) old potatoes  
 55 g (2 oz) plain flour  
 Milk  
 Salt and pepper  
 30 g (1 oz) butter

Peel the potatoes, boil them until tender, drain and mash them thoroughly. Beat the



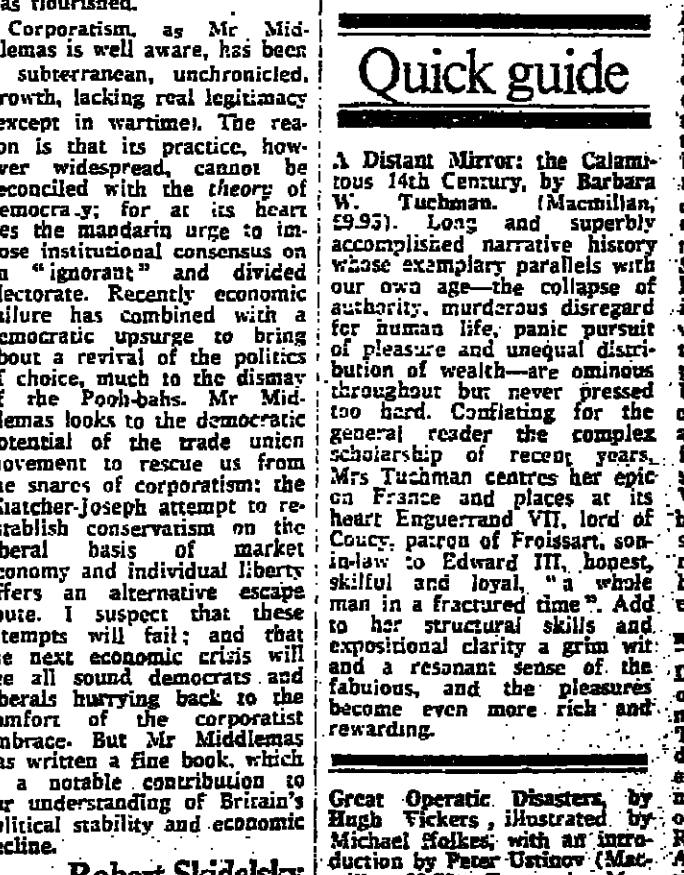
Available at leading stores. DEMA



## Illuminated manuscripts

for the Booker Prize. (*The Bookshop*) come home ahead of the field there would have been little of the disquiet expressed by her success this year. But I have to say that *Offshore* (Hollins, £4.50) seems to be aiming to reproduce the form of her previous novel in the quiet eccentricity which Mrs. Fitzgerald's strength, if destroyed by her ending story on a note of high wholly unresolved adventure, is quite out of keeping with that has gone before.

Most historical generalizations fall foul of the inconvenient fact, and Mr Middlemas is no exception. He is so convincing on the two periods of war and also on the 1960s and 1970s: that so often the inter-war years and the 1950s it is hard to see much evidence of corporate bias" in the Treasury decision to return to the gold standard in 1925, taken without consulting, and against the wishes of, the two sides of industry. The 1950s saw the nearest we have



**Richard Holmes**

We see Billy Graham at work in the stadium, preparing

book. **De la F.**

Telegraph/L, Consensus even

book. **De la F.**

Despite arms excellent, relatively tame articles, such as a lively and amusing one on the new book by Philip Hensher, "Living and breathe, Dick" (p. 10), said Kim Philby in his old familiar voice last night on the Bolshoi?) or Susan Hill's introduction to Thomas Hardy splendidly counterpointed by a simple's used up immediately. The "Felicity" photograph's book is far more ruffled than the current events. Its editor points out that "it does not intend to give a comprehensive view of the period." But it is an interesting companion guide to the 1978 and as such perhaps the closest to a "longside" of the "Whicker" and "Wilder" rather than with *The Guardian* by the end.

**Tim Heald**

smile. In book form, even rationed out to one at a time, they fall flatter.

One of the most effective, "Poison Pen," also appears in Ellery Queen's *Masks of Mystery* (Gollancz, £4.95) together with a short Rex Stout novel in the good old Nero Wolfe tradition and 20 other stories.

Rolling Heads, by Aaron  
Stein (Hale, £4.50).  
Adventure prone, eye-for-  
a-metry, American engineer in  
Jah amid the tourist spots  
Brittany. Unpretentious,  
efficient storytelling.

**H. R. F. Keating**

Great Operatic Disasters, by Hugh Fickers, illustrated by Michael Folkes, with an introduction by Peter Ustinov (Mat-

**Decadence.** The Strange Life of an Epithet by Richard Gilman (Secker & Warburg, £5.95). As woods decay, the woods decay and fall. But does art, do cultures? What does it do to describe a civilization as a person as decadent? Richard Gilman, the eminent American literary and drama-

history of the concept of cadence, and comes up with the conclusion that it is a Chinese word with as little descriptive meaning as an egg has after a weasel has sucked it. From the Decline and Fall of Rome to La Belle Époque, from Baudelaire to punk rockers, we have been using cadent as if it were an explanation. Life and art do not mean the most mysterious part, but the simple progress of falling-off of the words. Cadence is a coarse over-simplification and a red herring. But no word with such a strong and strange history can be empty of meaning as an egg-shell.

tionary of Subjects and Symbols in Art, by James Hall, production by Kenneth Clark and John Murray, £7.50). Revised edition, with new supplementary index, of lucid popular guide (1974) to the major historical and mythological themes of Western art. Packed with assimilable scholarship in manner of Classical, Christian, and Renaissance subjects in Apollo, Angelica, and Locusts through St. Jerome and The Woman on the Hill, and the reader is able to understand to the point of the highly travelable companion for looking at pictures.

the TLS tomorrow: Michael  
Howard on Kissinger, Anthony  
Levin on St Nicholas, poems  
by Patrick Leigh Fermor, D. J.  
Wright, Ed in Mutt, and a  
Christmas quiz. Next week in  
the Times Robert Ogilvie will  
review *The Place-names of  
Roman Britain*; Michael Rat-  
cliffe will review opera on  
record.

17

Treasure hunters.  
Turn to The Times

For Sale columns.

**THE TIMES**

## THEATRES

[illegible]

**CINÉMAS**

[illegible]

CESTER SQU  
BLACK HOL

[illegible]

## GALLERY

[illegible]

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Ronald Butt on the answer to the bleak prospects facing Mrs Thatcher

# Patriotism must be the policy now

The year now ends with Mrs Thatcher able to offer nothing but toil and sweat with more than a few tears

It must almost go without saying that no Government since the war has inherited quite so dangerous and bleak a prospect as Mrs Thatcher's has. There is, however, a further point that has hardly been taken at all. No other postwar Conservative Government has taken over, as this one has, in circumstances that from the start have virtually ruled out the policies that bring "popularity".

Indeed the election of 1979 brought something like a reversal of the previous pattern in which incoming Tory governments have been able to make the sort of decisions that secure public support, whereas the usual Labour governments which, for one reason or another, have been driven immediately to retrenchment, restraint and correction.

The Attlee government, for instance, taking over at the start of postwar reconstruction, was obliged to continue for some time the wartime apparatus of controls, even if its bureaucratic instincts led it to maintain these much longer than necessary. But the Conservatives, taking over in 1951 were immediately able to scrap rationing and controls, and to cause the social and economic crises that Labour had predicted, and so to create a new mood of optimism that led to 13 years of Tory rule.

In contrast the Wilson government of 1964 was in trouble straight away. Arguably it talked itself into a worse crisis than was necessary in its determination to prove that the Tories had left one behind them. Its troubles were further multiplied by its unsuccessful attempts to preserve the exchange rate, and its belief that high public spending could be paid for by grandiose national growth plans and solemn agreements with the unions.

In the end it was driven to pay freezes and restraints, tighter money and, finally, devaluation. It was hardly ever out of crisis and never able to create optimism, though Harold Wilson did his best to mask this by an incessant display of political "movement".

The first Wilson government, which

had seemed to have the right ideas for a new technocratic age, failed largely through its own political faults. Yet to some extent its problems were a legacy from the Macmillan years, when new Keynesianism and lax control of public spending and money had been used to fend off the Tories' almost superstitious terror at the slightest rise in the unemployment figures.

It was this same fear that tempted the Heath government, which came in on a surge of optimism and with the benefits of Mr Roy Jenkins's retrenchment, into the overspending which, with the oil crisis, drove it to the incomes policy which brought it down. And the Labour government of 1974 took over in gloom, had little room for manoeuvre, and never enjoyed the people's confidence. Having made its problems worse by the profligacy with which it tried to buy union support, it too was driven to constraint and to an incomes policy that led to its fall last winter.

Now, for the first time we have a Tory government with almost nothing to offer to secure popularity. We have already seen what inflation at 17 per cent interest rate has done to its budget concessions. At the same time it is challenged on the effects of its cash limits on pay, its public spending cuts and its modest measure of union reform. It is the first postwar Tory government to have to abandon the

tactic assumption of its predecessors that the Conservatives, not being identified as the natural party of the masses, could only take and keep office by offering the "goodies" of instant prosperity and consumer booms.

When retrenchment and restraint were inevitable, it has actually been easier for a Labour Government, assumed to be the natural representative of the trade unions and therefore under less suspicion, to implement them. It could even be plausibly argued that the Tories have in practice more often than not been the big spenders.

I do not mean by this to cast the Tories as the villains of the piece, and Labour as the heroes. The impotence of former Tory administrations has arisen largely from fear of the campaigns of the Labour Party, in conjunction with the unions, when in the irresponsibility of opposition, against more sensible courses.

The year now ends with Mrs Thatcher able to offer nothing but toil and sweat, with more than a few tears thrown in. Her Government must, from the outset, make a virtue of necessity and appeal to the larger interest of the nation, for the sake of its survival, against the destructive self-interest of particular groups. It must appeal to reason against the preference for believing that prosperity grows on trees; it must ask for the support of individual trade unionists against the

demands of their union leaders when these are irresponsible.

In other words it has to appeal to patriotism—though this time against internal disintegration rather than an external enemy—and to a sense of national community. This will not seem easy for we are a less homogenous nation than we were and patriotism is not in vogue intellectually. Tory Governments have become rather shy of it. In the Macmillan post-Suez years, it was not in the forefront, and Mr Heath was preoccupied with Europe.

Yet I suspect that the difficulties of the Government's position may be less formidable than they seem. As the year ends there is much more willingness to face reality than the politicians cared, in earlier times, to suppose. The clear refusal of so many union members to be tempted into actions which destroy their own and others jobs shows this. The way in which protests against the expenditure cuts fall flat is further evidence. So is the hollow ring to all the special pleading from the vic-chancellors and the student activists to the civil servants, that the cuts should fall on everyone except themselves. The Government's wish to bring sensible priorities into government spending and to reduce bureaucracy rather than essential services strikes a chord.

On the other hand, if Mrs Thatcher is to make the most of this mood, she must see that something like equality of sacrifice accompanies rewards for enterprise and work. That means a sacrifice from the company director as well as the worker from the higher as well as the lower paid. (How many directors, I wonder, cut their own pay when the brackets were changed?) The question for 1980 is how well Mrs Thatcher, without compromising her policy of financial and economic reality, can evoke a national response and national loyalty. It will not be done solely by the mechanics of money management. In many ways the greatest asset of this Tory Government is that it has come to office in circumstances giving it no alternative than to face the truth itself and ask the people to do the same.

Bernard Levin rushes to the defence of London's Cabbie

I sympathise with the young lady whose father wrote complaining about her unfortunate experience with a London taxi-driver (the *Times* of 12th Dec). But she could not direct him exactly, some way from her home late at night, but I will not hear a word against the London cabbie; not one word.

To be sure, the one gentleman's daughter picked up by a cabbie by the sound of it, and not even I would deny that in the barrel of London cab-drivers there are a few mouldy ones. The same, however, could be said of many a trade—why, I have even heard tell of journalists who were not quite fit to stand up to the ragged, but the cab-driver—the London one, that is—is to me a hero, to be spoken of in the same tones as those appropriate for El Cid, for Roland, for Oliver, for King Joshua, and Queen Boadicea, and he who speaks lightly in my presence of the Fraternity of the Turned-Up Collar is a man whose last hour has come.

Of course, even taxi-drivers are not what they were. The old-timers, whose standards justified every word even the most extravagant, are slowly disappearing, and many of the younger ones have a far more detached attitude to the world. Often they feel that they would be no less happy in some other trade provided the money, the hours and the elasticity of the job were similar, whereas the old generation would have found such a thought almost inconceivable. And naturally the world being what it is, there is a young tearaway, strain even in the stock of the London cabbie.

But that said, all is said, and the outraged father's comment—*ex uno, disce omnes*—that London has the most irresponsible and unscrupulous of the world cannot be sustained.

And I speak whereof I know. It is no use my saying, though it is true, that if I had had the money I have spent on London over the years I could have been a millionaire, because I would be a dead millionaire, the strain, frustration and unpleasantness of having to get about the town by other means having finished me off long ago. What reminds me: once, sitting beside the swimming-pool at the Alpenhof Hotel, Murnau, with the great Muller, and contemplating eternity; and our dinner table, at such a moment, might convince the more nervous spectators that the dreaded British Secret Police, under a uniformed commander, are about to swoop on some unfortunate diplomat. Come to think of it, if we did have a dreaded Secret Police, they probably would arrive on bicycles. After all, as Muller himself says, this is England. Then again, my friend, a cab-driver is honest to a point far beyond the average standard of the human race. Of course, he has something very valuable to lose: his licence. But that alone does not account for his rectitude. I have repeatedly met foreigners unacquainted with the London taxi-fare system, who have therefore simply held out handfuls of money to a cabbie, who has scrupulously taken only the exact fare and not even pointed out that in Britain it is the custom to add a tip.

More than that, most London cabbies are extraordinarily helpful, they will go to considerable lengths to help an elderly or infirm passenger; frequently carrying luggage not merely to the front door, but up flights of stairs as well; some even refuse a tip from a passenger they judge to be in straitened circumstances. In my experience, most of them hate the present design of taxi and taxi-engine, and all the things that come with London's deteriorating traffic conditions. I deplore the gradually increasing possession (and use) of transistor radios in the driving-section, but I put up with it as indeed I used to put up with a driver (I haven't seen him for years, and imagine he must have left the trade) who used to sing a song called *Raindrops are Falling on my Head* as he drove. I have never, during the journey, the night-mare quality of the entertainment being much emphasized by the fact that he could sing



Hail to my hero, the El Cid of the road

before he may be licensed to ply for hire, as long as I know, as rigorous as ever. Cabbies call it "the knowledge", and you may occasionally see a herd of would-be taxmen swirling about London on bicycles. Of all things, and off long ago, which reminds me: once, sitting beside the swimming-pool at the Alpenhof Hotel, Murnau, with the great Muller, and contemplating eternity; and our dinner table, at such a moment, might convince the more nervous spectators that the dreaded British Secret Police, under a uniformed commander, are about to swoop on some unfortunate diplomat. Come to think of it, if we did have a dreaded Secret Police, they probably would arrive on bicycles. After all, as Muller himself says, this is England. Then again, my friend, a cab-driver is honest to a point far beyond the average standard of the human race. Of course, he has something very valuable to lose: his licence. But that alone does not account for his rectitude. I have repeatedly met foreigners unacquainted with the London taxi-fare system, who have therefore simply held out handfuls of money to a cabbie, who has scrupulously taken only the exact fare and not even pointed out that in Britain it is the custom to add a tip.

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only one note, which—I haven't the perfect pitch or a trill like it—I judged to be a kind of hideously flattened G, and which saved its implacable monotony into my head until was praying that the drive would swerve into a lamp-post and kill us both, or at least his. The taxi-driver who is "just going home" is a figure attracting much censure, but the cabbie who swears into a lamp-post and kills us both, or at least his, is a figure attracting much sympathy. And if all else fails, just compare the London cabbie with his counterpart in Paris. Roma or the ultimate horrors of New York, and be thankful. Incidentally, there is a taxi-driver in New York, when cabbies are obliged by law to carry an identification-card on their dashboards, with their names in large capital letters called Milton Shulman, which is, of course, the name of the *Queen of the London Dramatic Critics*, Milton Shulman of the *Evening Standard*. If you go into his cab and see his name do not trouble to begin brightly. "I say, I see your name is Milton Shulman—now I come from London, and—" for at that point he will interrupt you with a snarl of "I know, I know".

Before I leave the subject for today, one last question: why are so many taxi-drivers Jewish? Their incidence is far beyond their proportion of the population. I have seen a taxi-driver, particularly Jewish about the profession, and I have asked the question many times, not least of taxi-drivers themselves, without receiving a satisfactory answer. If any reader has a solution—preferably one which does not prove that the Jews are about to take over the world, if, indeed, they have not already done so—I would be interested to learn it. Mean-while, hands off my friend the London cabbie, ringmaster, tomboy and clown to the weak. © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1979

## Oxford loss Cambridge gain

In announcing last week their intention to elect Lord Dacre of Glinton as their next Master, the Fellows of Peterhouse have departed from their usual practice of choosing a Cambridge man as head of the college. In accepting their invitation Lord Dacre will be ending an association with Oxford which has been unbroken since he went up to Christ Church as an undergraduate in the early 1930s.

Yet this particular marriage of light and dark blue is likely to be a happy one. Lord Dacre, who is probably still better known as Professor Hugh Trevor-Roper rather than by the title he took from his fifteenth-century ancestors when he was ennobled in the last Birthday Honours, is both academically and politically suited to the college of which he will take over the headship next year.

Peterhouse has an extremely strong tradition in Lord Dacre's own subject of history, although one of its present history Fellows modestly insists that engineering is now the strongest subject in the college. One of its most distinguished previous Masters was the late Herbert Butterfield, author of the still standard



Lord Dacre (Professor Hugh Trevor-Roper): a departure

work on the Whig interpretation of history.

In more recent years, thanks largely to the work of Maurice Cowling, the college has developed its own revisionist school of history which has rigorously reasserted the importance of high politics and intellectual movements against the fashionable concentration on the grassroots and the masses.

Politically, the college has a deep hostility to the ideas of the trendy Left. Its Fellows include Dr Edward Norman and

Dr David Watkins who have lambasted liberal and social democratic trends in the Church and in architecture with the same vigour that Mr Cowling has shown in attacking the theories of left-wing historians.

Lord Dacre may not find himself totally in accord with Peterhouse's very distinctive brand of conservatism. He himself is a high Tory of the old school whose conservative and unionist sympathies were seen to best effect in his devastating attacks in *The Times* three years ago on the whole principle of devolution to Scotland and Wales.

An ex-Fellow of Peterhouse who has now moved on to considerable academic eminence elsewhere warns that the new Master will find his old-fashioned High Toryism confronted with a lot of lower middle class social climbers who are trying to look like

High Tories. He also predicts that the somewhat High Church atmosphere of the college might jar on his rationalist and anti-clerical sensitivities.

Freed from his professional duties at Oxford, Lord Dacre may now find the time to write the magnum opus on the English Civil War which has been promised for many a year. He has been a frequent contributor to the college's *Journal* and his published output in his own specialist academic field of the seventeenth century has been disappointingly slight after his considerable promise of a first book on Archbishop Laud.

It is rather in his essays and his books on more recent history, most notably *The Last Days of Hitler*, *The Philby Affair* and *Sir Edmund Backhouse*, the eccentric sinologist, whose "hidden life" he painstakingly researched after being handed a package

of obscene autobiographical memoirs at Basle airport, that he has shown his stylistic flair and his masterly combination of lucid argument and witty epiphany.

Oxford will miss him. As Regius Professor of Modern History since 1957 he has introduced thousands of freshmen to the pleasures of Gibbon and Macaulay and told them sternly that he will only lecture to them if they wear gloves. He has been a powerful figure in University politics and managed the campaign that led to Harold Macmillan's election as Chancellor in 1960. He was also widely rumoured that he was the author of the *Mercurius Oxoniensis* column in the *Spectator*. Meanwhile bets are already being placed as to who will be the next Regius Professor.

Ian Bradley

## ARTS DIARY

### Dreaming of a future cornucopia

While the arts world faces Christmas with serious worries about cuts in government and local council grants early in the New Year, I can at least offer a dream of a future full of plenty, courtesy of the Labour Party's arts spokesman, Andrew Faulds.

Explaining what Labour would do for the arts, Mr Faulds said there would be a big increase in spending, perhaps doubling current expenditure, and a triennial rolling cash programme for the Arts Council, so organization could plan ahead. (It is a sign of the inexorable grip of finance on the arts that a triennial rolling cash programme should be considered an ideal Christmas present.)

In an article in the Greater London Arts Association's monthly *Arts Alert* he dis- counted the Conservatives' faith in increasing private patronage, and argued that local councils had to be forced to spend a proportion of the rates on the arts. "The majority of councillors have never espoused the arts because they know damn all about them. They will be the first budgets to be trimmed."

Mr Faulds wants to build up the Office of Arts and Libraries created by the Conservatives, turning it into a Ministry of the Arts and Heritage, taking on such extra responsibilities as historic houses, museums,

archaeology and films. "The present departmentalized set-up is not ideal," he says.

Other ideas include a college to train conservation staff, and consideration of a complete ban on the export of particularly important works of art. Improved arts education, a public inquiry into VAT in the theatre and music and tax incentives for the owners of historic houses are among his other plans.

Like any dream, there will be difficulties in turning it all into reality: there is no certainty that even when a Labour government is returned to power, it will have either the money or the political will to implement such promises.

But at the moment Mr Faulds is probably the nearest thing to Father Christmas that the arts world can expect this year.

Norrian Beaton will be appearing at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, next month in *Nice*, a one-man play by Mustapha Matura about a West Indian who believes that the best way to get on is to be nice to everyone. "The success of this gambit may be judged by the fact that the play is set in Brixton Prison."

### Welsh seek new conquests

The Welsh National Opera demonstrated during its season in London last week that a provincial opera company can compete very successfully with

the richer metropolitan companies. Now it is planning to take on some international competition.

Next June it is visiting East Germany, which is a bold move, given the current dominance of East German producers in the operatic world. "It will be an even bigger challenge than London," said the company, which believes it is the first British opera company to make the trip.

With financial help from the British Council and the East German cultural agency, they will be performing at the

Dresden opera festival, at the Leipzig Staatsoper and at the Allen Opera in Berlin.

They will present Britten's *The Turn of the Screw*, produced by Adrian Slack, their new director of productions. Verdi's *Ernani*, produced by Eliana Schmitt, and Strauss's *Elektra*. Taking the Strauss will be a bit like coals to Newcastle because it is produced by the East German Harry Kupfer.

While the Welsh are away, the Leipzig Staatsoper will be visiting Cardiff and Birmingham, presenting Mozart's *Titus* (La Clemenza di Tito) and Handel's *Xerxes*.

Hoggart and Alan Sillitoe, and among the American contingent Allen Ginsberg, Henry Miller and Philip Roth.

The revival of poems and extracts from the novels and plays, directed by Patrick Garland, will take place at the ranch where Lawrence lived in the mountains above Taos.

Mr Branch hoped that British performers participating would include Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Alan Bates, Claire Bloom, Dame Wendy Hiller, Trevor Howard and Diana Rigg.

Americans scheduled include Gert Garson, Dustin Hoffman, Burt Lancaster and Jack Lemmon.

Other events include a special show by Edward Albee and performances of a dramatized version of the American trial of Lady Chatterley's Lover.

New Mexico may offer the glamour, but another celebration is taking place in Lawrence's homeland, the mining country of Nottinghamshire. Broxtowe borough council, which covers Eastwood, the author's birthplace, are holding a festival from May 7 to 17.

As well as exhibitions, poetry readings and a series of lectures, the Nottingham Playhouse will present plays by and about Lawrence, and there will be a play about Lawrence by Tennessee Williams.

For those who can make it to neither New Mexico nor Nottinghamshire, a feature film about Lawrence's last years is being made by Christopher Miles, under the title of *The Priest of Love*. Ian McKellen has been offered the part of Lawrence.

### Rock rakes in the money

I suspect a fair number of people will look askance at a new record planned by the London Symphony Orchestra, a pop single featuring "Standing in the Shadows of Love".

It is really only an extension of work which is becoming common among some of the London orchestras, who argue that, providing the music is well done, there is nothing wrong with such projects. Since many orchestral players regularly augment their wages with session work on pop recordings, orchestras are happy to offer the work themselves, ensuring that the players also receive some of the profits.

The orchestras need all the money they can find, and pop ventures certainly meet with the approval of record buyers: the LSO's latest album in its *Classical Rock* series, *Rhapsody in Black*, from which the single's tracks are being taken, has sold 88,000 copies in two weeks.

The main argument against the LSO making pop records is that this could affect the quality of its classical concerts—and there is no sign of that.

Ronald Hyde's ballet *Papillon*, which receives its British premiere next February from the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, includes the pursuit of the *Swan* by a *Shogun*. It is unlikely as the present *Shogun* ends up with the *Swan*.

Martin Hackerby

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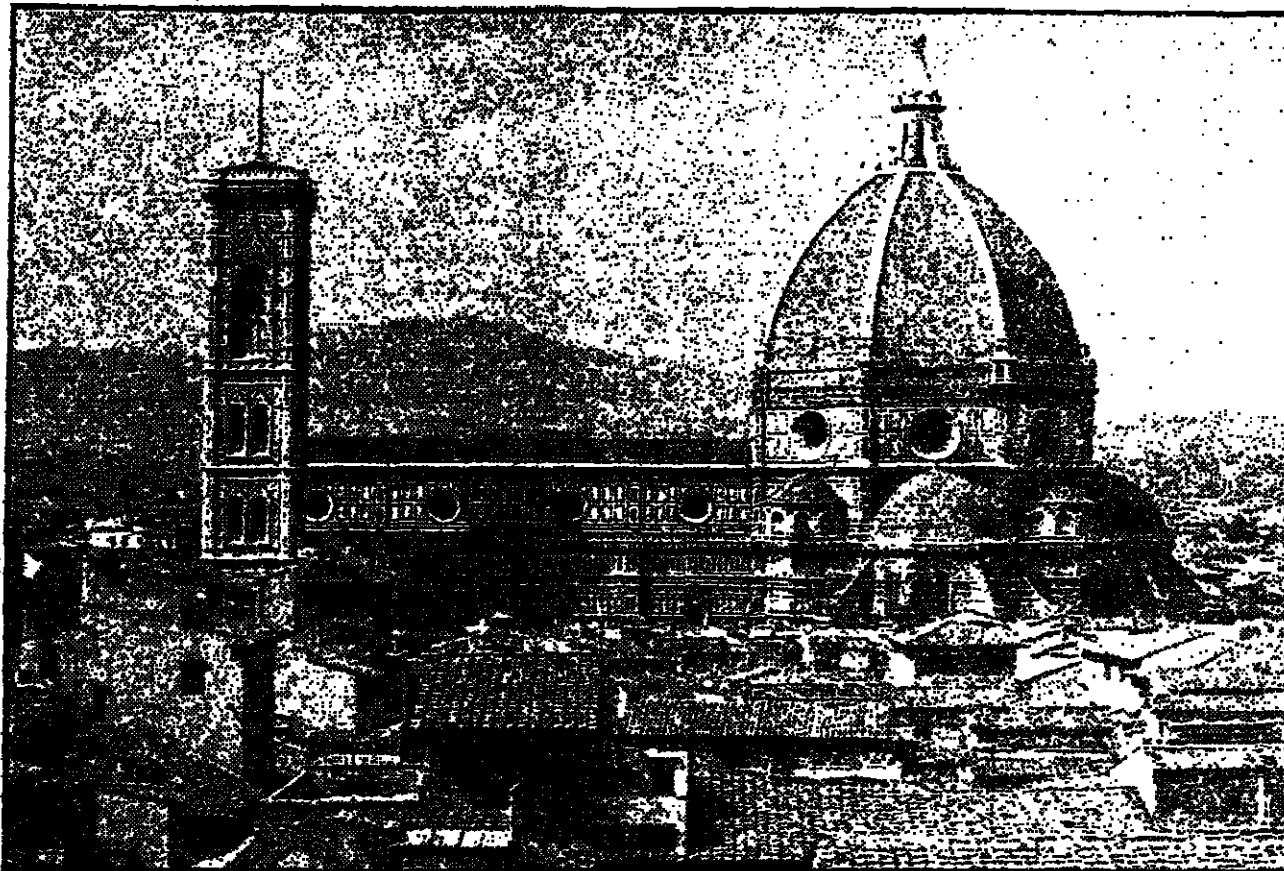
# HOLIDAYS IN ITALY



Police Beech samples  
rewards: guidelines for  
tourist: two new computer  
as for hotel reservations

4. still good value,  
how much longer?  
John Higgins on Maggio  
and festivals in Spoleto  
Verona

5. yes and bandit hunting in  
ischia, green island of  
a music and natural springs  
via more than a haven for  
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Page 6.  
Wilfrid Thomas visits  
Calabria, and finds it a place of  
strange illusions; Joyce Rackham  
eats "little ears" in Brindisi;  
secrets of the Cinque Terre

Page 7.  
Stena and other pearls of  
Tuscany; J. C. Trewin on the art  
treasures of Friuli and the Veneto

The large picture shows the Duomo in  
Florence. A vast exhibition of the arts  
under the Medici, to be staged in the  
city and elsewhere in Tuscany throughout  
the spring and summer, is previewed by  
Marina Valzey on this page.

## Where life is always lived to the full

were taking our pre-  
ease on the balcony of  
all hotel in a modest  
perched on a hillside  
miles inland of the  
ian coast. The name of  
wn has gone from my  
ry, as has the exact  
but it was many years  
and my first visit to  
I was trying to acquire  
for Campari-hopping  
iché drink would dis-  
my rawness—and look-  
th my companions at  
ssing scene, and the  
y beyond.

ow the balcony a hand-  
streets led away from  
il square in which a  
nan was painstakingly  
ting a traffic jam,  
trating the horns with  
flooded flourishes, dar-  
nto the fray with  
iasm and a whistle.

There were arpeggios of  
suddenness, dramatic  
movements from the gesture  
section and delicate weaving  
passages from the young  
men on Vespas.

As a contrast to the moun-  
ing chaos, the view beyond  
was of silent hillslopes and  
mellow-tiled houses among  
the vines and olives, of nar-  
row, timeless tracks thread-  
ing among the fields. Some-  
where out there was the  
village of Pontedassio where  
I had discovered—but re-  
fused to believe in—a  
spaghetti museum. Away to  
the south lay the resorts of  
the Fiora Coast.

Looking over the scene in  
the square, I attempted a  
sage observation. "If ever  
the Italians get themselves  
properly organized, Lord  
help the rest of Europe."

My friend Arthur, older

and wiser in the ways of that  
land, looked at me across his  
brimming wineglass. "What  
makes you think?" he asked.  
"that the Italians haven't got  
themselves properly orga-  
nized?"

The years have flown by  
and I have learnt what  
Arthur meant. Whenever  
there is news of yet another  
Italian political crisis, of in-  
dustrial unrest, of raging in-  
flation, I reflect that little  
really changes in that land.  
The Italians have much ex-  
perience to draw on. They  
have known what it is like  
to "hold sway over a great  
empire, they have known  
glorious victories and bitter  
defeats."

They have invaded. They  
have been conquered. They  
have tried all the mixtures of  
government—emperors and  
kings, republics, dictators  
and democrats, the left, the  
right and the centre—and  
survived magnificently. Sur-  
vived to drive appallingly on.

Charles Dickens described  
and making for the coast of  
the rising sun. It was an  
establishment that had  
clearly seen better days,  
but had weathered the pas-  
sing years without losing all  
of its grand manner.

Gold lettering on great  
glass doors proclaimed that  
writing rooms, women's  
salons and indoor gardens  
were available for our  
pleasures. Outside a brace  
of old men watered the  
gravel drive and the geraniums which clambered  
up the trellis towards pot  
bellied balconies, like hot-  
headed Romans, scarlet with  
passion. The revolving door  
opened and struck, the  
floorboards creaked and  
groaned. The lift was slow,  
glass panelled and mahogany  
framed.

I have since visited many  
small, family-run estab-  
lishments, a world removed  
from the multi-storied

Benidormitories of modern  
mass tourism. And although  
the Vittoria is no more  
there are so many like it  
usually a little way off the  
normal tourist track, with  
temperamental plumbing,  
plain food and clean linen.

There are grander estab-  
lishments too, of course,  
and more modern hotels  
which cater for the package  
deal customer. At Rimini  
one year I sampled this kind  
of Italy, but did not take  
to it as I should. Until the  
evening of the Great Um-  
brella Competition.

From my bedroom win-  
dow, seven or eight floors  
above the promenade, I had  
a grand view of the bustle.  
The focus of attention  
was a collection of beach  
umbrellas—a couple of  
dozen, maybe more—opened  
wide and set out with plenty  
of space between them. They  
were quite white, in contrast  
to the forest of colourful  
brollies on the beach itself.

and around the sidewalk  
cafés.

On that bright summer  
afternoon in Rimini, how-  
ever, the white umbrellas  
were important. They were  
the "canvases" upon which  
amateur designers were going  
to paint. They mounted  
stepladders and began slosh-  
ing paint on the brollies,  
twirling and twisting them  
to make their patterns. The  
idea, apparently, was that  
the best would be chosen  
as that year's official design  
by some organization or an-  
other, and its creator would  
get a prize.

Out of such a simple thing  
the Italians built suspense  
and drama, comedy and tri-  
gamy. The participants flung  
paint and temperament  
about. Their supporters  
whistled and jeered,  
applauded and argued. Chil-  
dren? Perhaps it was, but  
only the Italians could stage  
it that way.

have been as disorganized as  
the "organizers" of another  
contest I encountered just a  
week later in Lido di Jesolo.  
They were picking the  
year's "Miss Cinema  
Europe" and the panel of  
international judges included  
a journalist from London. I  
was introduced to the orga-  
nizers and—worse—to the  
contestants as "a journalist  
from London". They jumped  
to the wrong conclusion.

Until the genuine article  
turned up I had a great time.  
I doubt if such a mix-up  
would have happened any-  
where else but in Italy.

I have watched the fishing  
fleet set sail from Scilla,  
seen the thunderclouds mate  
over the rooftops of Venice.  
I have braved the traffic of  
Naples and driven down the  
Highway of the Sun to the  
dark, neglected south. I have  
walked with an Italian-  
American on the hilltop he  
bought above the village  
brollies on the beach itself.

grated, and learnt what it  
is really like to love a land  
even though you were born  
4,000 miles away from it.

I have watched the rich  
playing on the Costa  
Smeralda and the poor buy-  
ing candles from their  
priests in rumbledown vil-  
lage churches. There are so  
many memories, so many  
variations on the theme of  
Italy, to crowd my mind,  
as they crowd the mind of  
anyone who has been lucky  
enough to visit that land over  
a period.

It must have changed as  
time passed, I am sure. But  
I cannot pin down those  
changes, for the people of  
Italy shrug aside such things  
as they proceed with the  
business of living life to the  
full. And so far as that is  
concerned they have got  
themselves properly orga-  
nized.

John Carter

## Illuminating culture is aim of exhibition

Italy that that pecu-  
d particular amalgam  
sical and Christian  
the Renaissance—  
ook place. Changing  
ities ensured that the  
y of the early stage  
energetic, inquir-  
ive. So many build-  
ings and the  
gs, the statues and  
oks that embodied  
mplex movement still  
many in situ—that  
turies Italy has been  
erations of northern  
ans the goal of their  
summed up for the  
in the phrase the  
Tour.

First six months of  
important art  
ions in Italy are all  
examine the past  
more and recent. The  
is of the art market  
demands of art  
ship combine to set  
w avenue of explor-  
while cultural diplo-  
s an often unrecog-  
ingredient in inter-  
exhibitions. The  
of Europe promotes  
understanding the  
changing bound-  
its member states.

magic, astrology, alchemy  
and science. Just in time  
for intending visitors, Pen-  
gin Books has reissued  
Christopher Hibbert's recent  
*The Rise and Fall of the  
House of Medici* (£2.50), a  
lively, fascinating account.  
The exhibition opens on  
March 15, and continues  
until June 15.

There will also be special  
allied exhibitions in Siena,  
Leghorn, Pisa and Grosseto.  
Several guided tours have  
been arranged by firms spe-  
cializing in cultural travel.  
A particularly splendid  
example is dedicated to  
Florence of the Medici  
(April 12 to 19), led by Dr  
Francis Ames-Lewis.

It takes in Florence, Siena,  
San Gimignano, Poggia-  
liano and Pisa, and is  
organized by Serenissima.  
Special tours, which arrange  
trips for societies connected  
with the arts, has organized  
a visit to the exhibition for  
the Friends of the Royal  
Academy (March 25 to 31).  
Special tours is arranging to  
lead for members of the  
National Art-Collections  
Fund called Naples to the  
Spur of Italy (April 11-25).  
This promises a thorough  
exploration of the castle,  
churches, towns and villages  
of the region. Swans Art  
Treasures Tour also have a  
trip to southern Italy while  
the exhibition is on, with  
extensive travelling (April  
9-23).

And so to Venice, where  
in the public gardens of the  
city, and in other locations,  
the 1980 Venice Biennale  
opens on June 1, to run until  
the end of September. Here,  
the very recent past will be  
examined, with a retrospec-  
tive of Western art during  
the 1970s in the main pavil-  
ions, while each national  
pavilion is devoted to  
special showings of individ-  
ual artists. The British are  
fielding the young sculptors,  
Nicholas Pope and Tim  
Head, who devised installa-  
tions using a complex array  
of projected images.

The Contemporary Art  
Society will be organizing a  
special trip to the Biennale  
during the summer. Other  
trips to Venice during the  
period of the Biennale in-  
clude Heritage Travel's  
week, May 25 to June 5,  
when Philip Rylands, an art  
historian who lives in  
Venice and is on the exec-  
utive committee of Venice  
in Peri, will take the group  
on a thorough historical  
tour. Each of the firms  
mentioned is also organizing  
trips to Venice, not neces-  
sarily during the period of  
the Biennale.

Marina Valzey

## More beds must be filled

Italy is not making the best  
of its tourist potential, even  
if these past three years  
have registered a marked  
recovery from the stagna-  
tion which prevailed be-  
tween 1973 and 1976. It is  
increasingly realized in the  
trade that sun, sea and  
mountains are no longer  
enough to sell themselves.  
The main problems are two,  
or perhaps three—to fill  
beds out of season, to even  
out the geographical spread  
so that the Mezzogiorno gets  
its fair share and, possibly,  
to lessen dependence on the  
holidaymaker from West  
Germany.

Tourism is a big revenue  
earner for the private sector  
and is one of the big sup-  
ports for the balance of  
payments. The foreign  
currency intake went up  
from 4,202,000m lire in 1977  
to 5,335,000m in 1978 and  
will probably exceed  
6,500,000m this year. When  
the expenditure of Italian  
travellers abroad is de-  
duced, the net balance rose  
from 3,413,500m lire in 1977  
to 4,310,500m lire last year.

Tourism, furthermore, is  
a valuable labour-intensive  
activity in a country tradi-  
tionally suffering from  
under-employment, as it  
gives a living to an esti-  
mated 1,500,000 people out  
of a national workforce of  
21 million.

On a closer look, however,  
these statistics are less  
impressive. Inflation has  
been running in double  
figures in these years, and  
the lira's exchange rate has  
been declining against most  
currencies, so the increase  
in real terms is much more  
modest. Moreover, operators  
point out that a tightening  
of foreign exchange controls  
has brought into official  
banking channels a con-  
siderable number of trans-  
actions which used to go  
unrecorded through the  
black market.

The country has 42,000  
hotels, 250,000 restaurants,  
2,000 travel agencies,  
1,650,000 hotel beds and a  
total bed capacity—including  
private accommodation,  
holiday villages, residences,  
camping sites—of 4,200,000.  
Hotel beds are being added  
to at an average of 35,000  
a year. Total receptive ca-  
pacity, according to the  
tourist market study, is  
twice that of Spain, five

times that of Yugoslavia, and  
13 times that of Greece.

But it emphasizes that  
these figures give no  
grounds for complacency,  
for total bed capacity is used  
only to the extent of 23.3  
per cent, while foreigners  
sleep in Italian beds for only  
nine nights out of the 365.  
The situation is worse in the  
Mezzogiorno, as the north  
and central regions absorb  
65 per cent of the flow of  
foreign tourists.

Nevertheless, the number  
of foreign visitors is increas-  
ing, in spite of—to quote a  
study guide for BTT, the  
Milan Fair's International  
Tourist Market—"the  
spread of common and po-  
litical crimes, of the strikes  
and obvious inefficiency of  
public services, of the fact  
that the famous Italian cook-  
ing (one of the main tourist  
attractions) is becoming  
standardized and thus deter-  
iorating, that foreign travel  
agencies are making grow-  
ing difficulties in making  
their arrangements for the  
period of the high summer  
season."

It is also increasing, the  
report says, despite acces-  
sory expenses, the neg-  
ligence of air traffic with its  
continual delays, the  
lethargy of the postal  
system, and many other fac-  
tors from earthquakes to the  
presence of cholera from  
the pollution of the sea to  
the exorbitant charges im-  
posed on foreign pleasure  
craft as soon as they touch  
the Italian coast.

Last year 15,300,000  
foreigners entered Italy,  
spending 87,500,000 nights in  
the country, against  
14,800,000 for 81 million  
nights in 1977. This year is  
expected to register a rise  
on 1978 of at least 7 per  
cent.

The problems are thus two  
—the horizontal one of  
widening the tourist season  
from the three summer  
months to at least six, and  
the vertical one of directing  
more traffic from north and  
centre towards the south.

In addition, the industry  
is disproportionately depen-  
dent on Germans who,  
according to an analysis  
made for the com-  
puterized information service  
Turinform, accounted last  
year for more than 43 per  
cent of all foreigners.  
Arrivals also increased from  
Austria, Britain, Switzerland  
and Holland, while the num-  
ber of French stagnated and  
those from the United States  
fell, in line with the dollar's  
loss in value.

The number of Japanese,  
after increasing steadily to a  
peak of 903,000 bed-nights in  
1976, has also been falling.

continued on page IV

## Tuscany: Back to the roots of man



What do you expect from  
a holiday in Tuscany?  
Probably the emotion of  
admirer at close hand  
those museums to summer  
of universal art which  
you so often come across  
in the museums of Europe.  
Then here is another Tus-  
can holiday, one that will  
make your holidays an  
unforgettable experience.  
Sticks of soft, hot, sandy beaches, cliffs  
for diving, famous seaside resorts for  
sunbathing, friends and  
washed pure waters for  
relaxing. And also the  
charm of the mountains,

with all under your feet,  
when on about 40 miles  
of coastline, you will  
discover a silent white  
Tuscany. And if you are  
thinking of a holiday for  
your health too, here you  
will find 25 years among  
the famous in Europe,  
these ancient healthy  
waters will offer you a  
pleasant restful stay. In  
short, sea, country, mount-  
ains, art, food, entertain-  
ment, all rubbed in one  
spot, to help you discover  
"man's world".  
Is this enough for you?

There is Tuscany, Tuscany and Tuscany

TUSCAN  
REGIONAL  
GOVERNMENT



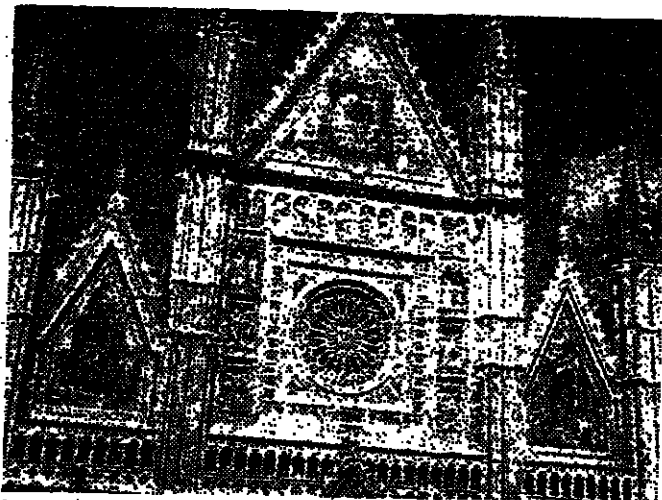
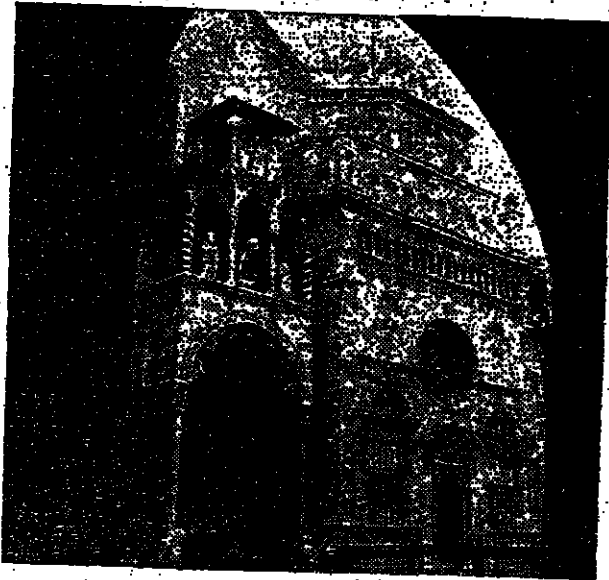
For information  
Italian State Tourist  
Office (I.S.T.)  
201 Regent Street  
London W1R 6AY  
Tel. 439 2311



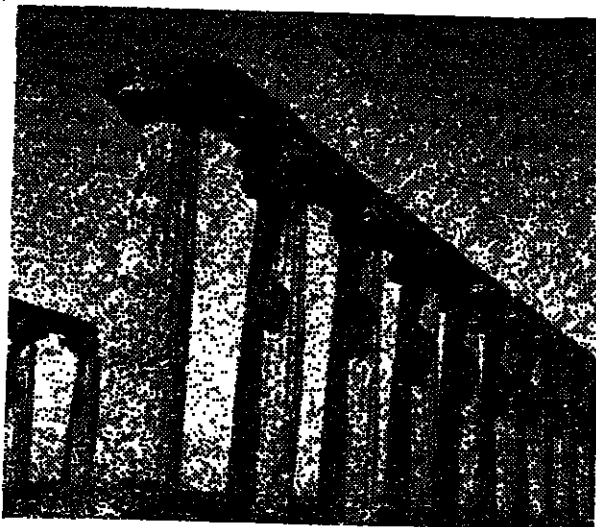
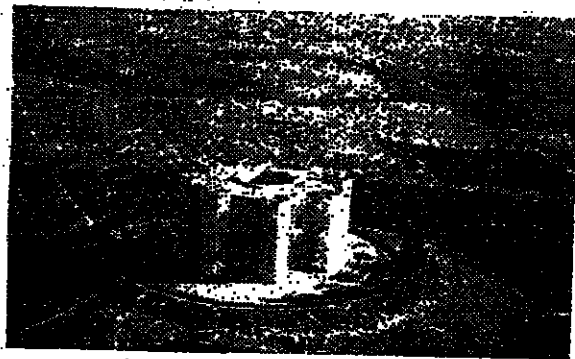
## Colin Price Beech



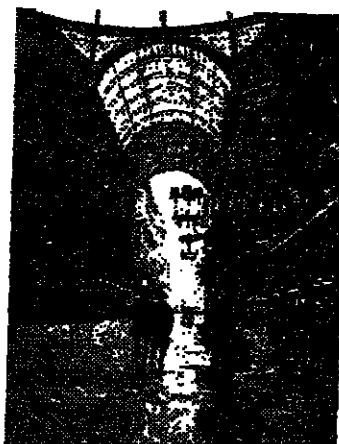
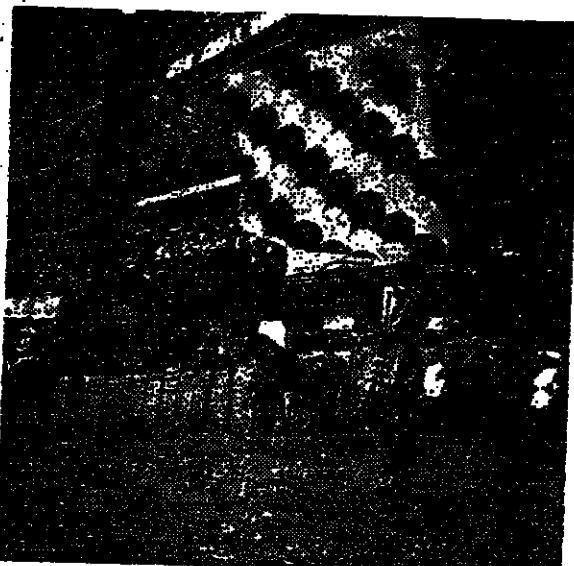
# ITALY



Famous cities, beaches, mountains,  
lakes, folklore—we have it all.  
Art treasures and masterpieces, history  
at every turn. And today's Italy  
offers so much more to  
the most demanding visitor.  
Art festivals, opera and folk music.  
Fashion, handicrafts, sports  
for every season. Life in the cities

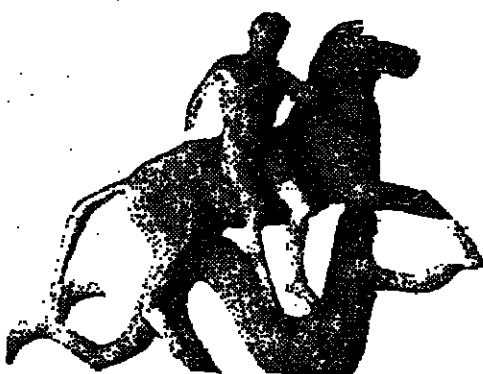


and in the country. Provincial towns still untouched, modern hotels and secluded inns. And the most beautiful landscape in the world, the texture of a whole civilization. The art of living, our art of living, the superb wines and food of so many different regional cuisines. Modern motorways, the best in



Europe, an extensive network of  
air, sea and land communications.  
And some 800 museums, art galleries and  
archaeological sites, yours to see and  
enjoy.

Then our people, the warm, friendly welcome  
of a country where  
hospitality is an art.



# Where hospitality is an art



**ITALIAN STATE TOURIST OFFICE**  
**201 Regent Street, London, W1R 8AY.**  
**Tel : 01-439 2311**







## ISLAND PATTERNS

## Brooding beauty with a menacing quiet

My first visit to Sicily about 16 years ago changed my whole approach to holidays and after more than 30 trips since then, its attractions have not diminished: there has always been something new and surprising to increase my affection. Yet it is not an easy place to know well. Sicilians are not like the Italians farther north with their charm and easy friendliness. They are private people often taciturn with interest in, and loyalty to, their families and their other considerations.

After 16 years, I know that I have some true friends among them and that I will have them all my life. Sicily, too, has not yet developed its tourist resorts in the same way as the north of the country. Sadly, however, mass tourism is now approaching, but it is still possible to enjoy a slower pace of life and quiet spots away from the developing resorts. Some of these are so isolated that they are likely to remain their charm for many years.

But, if resorts are what the tourist requires, Taormina—commercialized perhaps but nothing can destroy its splendid setting and the view of Etna—Mondello, a long-established resort outside Palermo. Cefalù, an old town grouped around a remarkable rock structure, and many others have plenty to offer the package holiday-maker.

If it is archaeology which is your interest, there is a wealth of ruins. There is little anywhere which surpasses the majesty and splendour of Agrigento, the solution of the Doric temple of Segesta, the remains of the ancient city of Selinunte, the Greek theatres of

Taormina, Segesta and Siracusa. Civilization in Sicily did not end with the Greeks. The splendid Norman Cathedral at Monreale is just a bus-ride from Palermo. The wonderfully preserved baroque city of Noto on the coast between Agrigento and Siracusa is well worth a visit. All the important towns have an array of interesting churches and cathedrals, the simplicity of the cathedral at Siracusa being my favourite.

All this and I have not mentioned the island's interior, with its brooding beauty and almost menacing quiet. No one should miss the mosaics of the Villa Casale, close to Piazza Armerina, or the enchanting little hill town of Erice.

After many visits, it is the contrasts so close together which delight me most. To climb to the crater of Etna in the summer months brings a respite from the heat of the plains, as well as a real lesson in volcanic activity. With its peak over 10,000ft Etna has in recent years become a charming and not over-crowded winter skiing resort.

Down on the coast it is still possible to swim in clear water, so important to the lives of farming and fishing people. Best of all, perhaps, in the contrast to the heights of Etna are the depths of the sea with the delights of snorkelling or skin-diving.

Sicily itself is an island, but one of its special delights is that it has its own offshore islands. I know the Aeolian Islands to the north-west of Sicily best. The seven islands in the archipelago include Stromboli, world-famous for its well-

behaved volcano which erupts dutifully every day; the sparks of lava flying into the sky at night compare with any fireworks display. The main island of the group, however, is Lipari, an old-established community daring back to prehistoric times. Today there is a thriving community surrounding the ancient acropolis and medieval city. Lipari is developing fast and has several new hotels with all modern conveniences. An early visit is advised; unless care is taken the unique attractions of the island with its wonderful walks, swimming in clear blue sea and simple pleasures may be lost.

The remaining islands include Vulcano, mythical home of the god Vulcan, today the home of a holiday village with lively social and night life during the months of July and August. Outside these months the island is quiet and a treasure for the geologist with its volcanic activity, including mud baths, hot bubbling sea and smoking volcanoes. In Salina, Filicudi and Panarea there is little for the holidaymaker to do, except to swim, sunbathe and laze in beautiful scenery with amiable companions in some private homes. There are few advanced holiday activities, but the swimming is wonderful. Snorkelling and skin-diving are sheer pleasures. The water like millions of leaves. The variety is enormous; it is a new world.

Lipari traditionally was one of the island prisons, so favoured by Italian governments to house dangerous criminals. The prisoner lived free on the island with an allowance for food and often was able to live a higher standard than the peasant community around him. Their only advantage was that they could leave and the prisoner could not: otherwise he was able to live a normal life, often with his family around him. This system survives to some extent today on Linosa, an island to the south of Sicily where Mafia suspects are held, pending their trial.

For details of package holidays get in touch with Alitalia or C.I.T. The best way to go, however, if it is your first visit, is to fly-and-drive to see as much as possible. Details of packages are available from the Italian State Tourist Office, 201 Regent Street, London W1. If you become a member of the Italian Workers' Association (Ali Viaggi, 280, Pentonville Road, London N1, 01-378 5197) and anyone can, you can fly directly to Sicily to Palermo or Catania for about £100 return, compared with a normal fare from London of more than £200, changing in Rome.

Margaret Allen The picturesque old harbour at Cefalù, Sicily.



## Mass tourism defies the kidnappers

Just over 15 years ago the top right-hand corner of Sardinia was known as the Gallura coast. It was deserted and almost inaccessible from inland. The only way to this craggy coastline and the wonders of the Maddalena archipelago was from the sea.

It was for this reason that some rich people made it their second home. Their yachts could be moored in safety, for rough seas never seemed to reach the bright green inlets of this coast, and they could enjoy a tranquillity which was out of reach in resorts such as the Côte d'Azur. The Aga Khan liked the place so much that he formed a consortium with some of his associates—among them his brother Prince Sadruddin, the late Patrick Guinness, and John D. Miller, then head of the European office of the World Bank—in order to create a haven in the sun for those who could afford it. The Costa Smeralda, as it was from now on to be called, was born.

By 1966 the consortium had invested more than £8m in developing the 35 miles of coast stretching from the Golfo di Olbia up to the small neighbouring island of La Maddalena. Development was in good taste and has remained so, thanks partly to the Aga Khan and partly to the Sardinian naturalist and Mediterranean passion for tidiness.

It cannot be denied that the recent spate of kidnappings has had a marked effect on the island's tourist industry. But this is only as far as the wealthy section of the market is concerned, particularly those that have their own villas or apartments.

Reports suggest that the mass tourism section of the industry is continuing to grow. The Costa Smeralda is still accessible to the average traveller, and although it is not as cheap as Spain it has many types of accommodation to offer the less affluent.

Starting near the most expensive, there is the magnificent Hotel Romazzino near Porto Cervo, owned by the Rank Organisation. It looks

out over sunny terraces, lush green lawns and flower gardens which slope down to a private beach which, because of the excellent barbecue, is becoming a favourite stop-off place for yachts. Prices arranged through a package deal start from £353 per person for seven nights and progress to £1,189 for 14 nights in the high season.

Overlooking the marina at Porto Cervo is the Hotel Luci de la Montagna which, too, is set in landscaped gardens. It is popular with British tourists. Prices there extend from £203 for bed and breakfast for seven nights to £619 for full board for 14 nights.

This is only a sample of the package deals offered by the Magic of Sardinia, a London travel company specializing

in Costa Smeralda holidays. At the other end of the price scale, for the travelling student, there is a youth hostel down by the harbour in Olbia, the main town communicating with the Costa. Called the Ostello Pausania, it is on the Via Genova, and accommodation for one night costs about £1.80.

For motorists there is one of the few motels on the island at Baia Sardinia, the Motel Tuf-Tuf, open only in the summer season. Cars can be hired on the island and a fly-drive holiday is ideally suited to the Costa: many of the roads have only recently been built and link all the main towns.

Also available is an American-style Camper Car holiday. (Four-berth Fiat mobile campers). Arranged through Magic of Sardinia and British Caledonian the prices for this good value holiday, depending on season, start at £136 (seven days) and go up to £244 (14 days). The rates are per person and are subject to the size of the party.

The most popular car to hire is the Fiat 127. Prices per person for one of these, including a British Caledonian return flight from Gatwick, range from £131 for seven days to £204 for 14 days in the high season, which are lower rates than in 1978. Mileage is not charged but there are some local taxes to be paid.

Ted Trott

## In a bandit's footsteps

That's where they make their overcoats and diving suits, our Sicilian guide announced as the coach passed a ready-mixed concrete factory. Not really, of course. Not any more.

The same bright day, Palermo's chief of police is hot dead on a busy street in the capital. For real, it is grim reminder for those who see in the Mafia a tourist attraction.

Still, the show must go on: that evening the guide was taking names for a trip into the mountains to meet the local "godfather". There will be music, unlimited wine and your photograph taken alongside a man who, it is claimed, has ordered. Children who made the trip the previous week said it was a big disappointment. The guide is old, gentle and othing like Marlon Brando hewing gobstoppers.

Instead, we decided to visit the stamping grounds of Sicily's hero, Salvatore Giuliano, sometimes referred to as the Robin Hood of Italy. In fact, he was different things to different people—cold-blooded murderer, an ut-and-out bandit, a free-

law-and-order and a claimed relationship with the village's favourite son.

Reminders of Giuliano are everywhere, here a cousin, there a shrine. On the left is a bar run by his family, on the right the house where he lived. His photograph of a handsome defiant man with thumbs hooked over gunbelts is seen in picture postcards or framed on bar walls.

During our visit we discovered that his closest relatives do not believe Giuliano is dead, despite photographs of his dead body spread-eagled across a courtyard. The guide says he recently met someone who knew that Giuliano was in the United States.

It is unlikely, but if Giuliano is dead who killed him? Fellow bandits, the police or the Mafia? Or a combination of any two or three? In a land where people are still murdered for their role in film portrayals of Giuliano's life, there is understandably little desire to rake over the past.

John Huxley

## Rich gardens where springs relief

Isola d'Ischia has a beauty all its own. Its precipitous mountain sides and ancient craters are clothed with grape vines, groves of chestnut, olive and oak trees. From the mountains the sea views are ever-changing, violet, crimson, powder blue.

Spring follows early each winter, bringing the golden drifts and the scent of mimosa and the paler tints of the fruit blossom. Days of lovely sunshine alternate with dramatic storms.

Then in the washed air wonderful views emerge of the snow-capped Apennines encircling the horizon of the Bay of Naples. Then, too, early wild flowers abound—violets, purple cyclamen and the golden ginepro, or broom, carpeting the hill-sides before the full flowering of summer bursts on the island.

This beautiful Isola Verde, as it is known locally by virtue of its varied vegetation, was called by the ancient Greeks Pithecusa, and by the Romans Aemaria. Then, as now, Ischia was a centre for the production of ceramics and of light wines. It remains a lovely holiday area, where tourism prospers beside the ingenious agricultural life of the island.

Porto d'Ischia lies 26 km to the south-west of the mainland with the dominant presence of Vesuvius. The charming harbour can be reached by a regular hydrofoil service in 45 minutes, or by car ferry in an hour and a half. It is usually busy with large and small private craft and is surrounded by terraced green hills. It is within easy reach of Capri and other lovely islands of the Campania region.

There are natural hot and cool springs all over the island, with properties which have given relief from aches and pains, or just happy relaxation, from ancient times. Many are now enclosed in quiet landscaped gardens, where one can "take the waters" at varying temperatures. Swimming in the cool, clean seas around the island, one sometimes feels the gush of a warm spring from the sea bed.

There are luxurious hotels with private beaches, tennis courts and thermal swimming pools. Several hotels have resident medical facilities, and all are set in flowering gardens. Or there are more modest hotels, pensions and charming apartments to be rented in private villas, seasonally or for longer periods.

At all seasons the Ischeran contadini or landowner farmers tend their vineyards, orchards and vegetable gardens with the help of their

families. The local wine, often differing in quality and flavour from one slope of Ischia to another, can be even more enjoyable when tasted directly from the cool cave of the groves, rather than from a bottle on a restaurant table, where it is usually named Epomeo, after the 2,585ft high ancient volcano which towers from its terraced foothills.

Many of the small restaurants or trattorie dotted about Ischia—some on high points which necessitate a rewarding climb—will serve their own "wine of the country". And if one must have spirits, English gin and Scotch whisky, as well as Italian brandy and liqueurs, can be bought more cheaply than in London.

Although many tourists in the season confine themselves to the busy day and night life of Porto d'Ischia and its charming neighbour Ischia Ponte, where the Castello Aragonese of the fourteenth century may be explored, there is an excellent bus service to the other towns of the island.

Each has its own character and attractions. There are colourful little "micro-taxis" which whizz around, and the smaller the vehicle the better in the narrow streets. Pony traps for children are popular, and the ubiquitous carriages with their decorated horses ply for hire.

However, walking is the way to discover the many hidden charms of the Isola Verde, its towns and villages and countryside. But if you prefer not to walk up Monte Epomeo there are mules to carry you.

From mules to music. In September, 1978, four outstanding concerts—"I Concerti dell' Isola Verde"—were presented free by distinguished groups of musicians under the auspices of the regional and local tourist authorities.

Surely none can have been given in a more beautiful setting than that of the picturesque remains of the cathedral on the Castello Aragonese, in the moonlight of a perfect evening, in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the birth of the immortal Antonio Vivaldi.

At Lacco Ameno, also on the north coast of Ischia, archaeologists can easily find evidence of the Greek and Roman occupations of what was a thriving commercial colony. Beneath the basilica of the church of Santa Maria della Resurrezione an ancient necropolis has been excavated on several levels.

Barbara Stebbins

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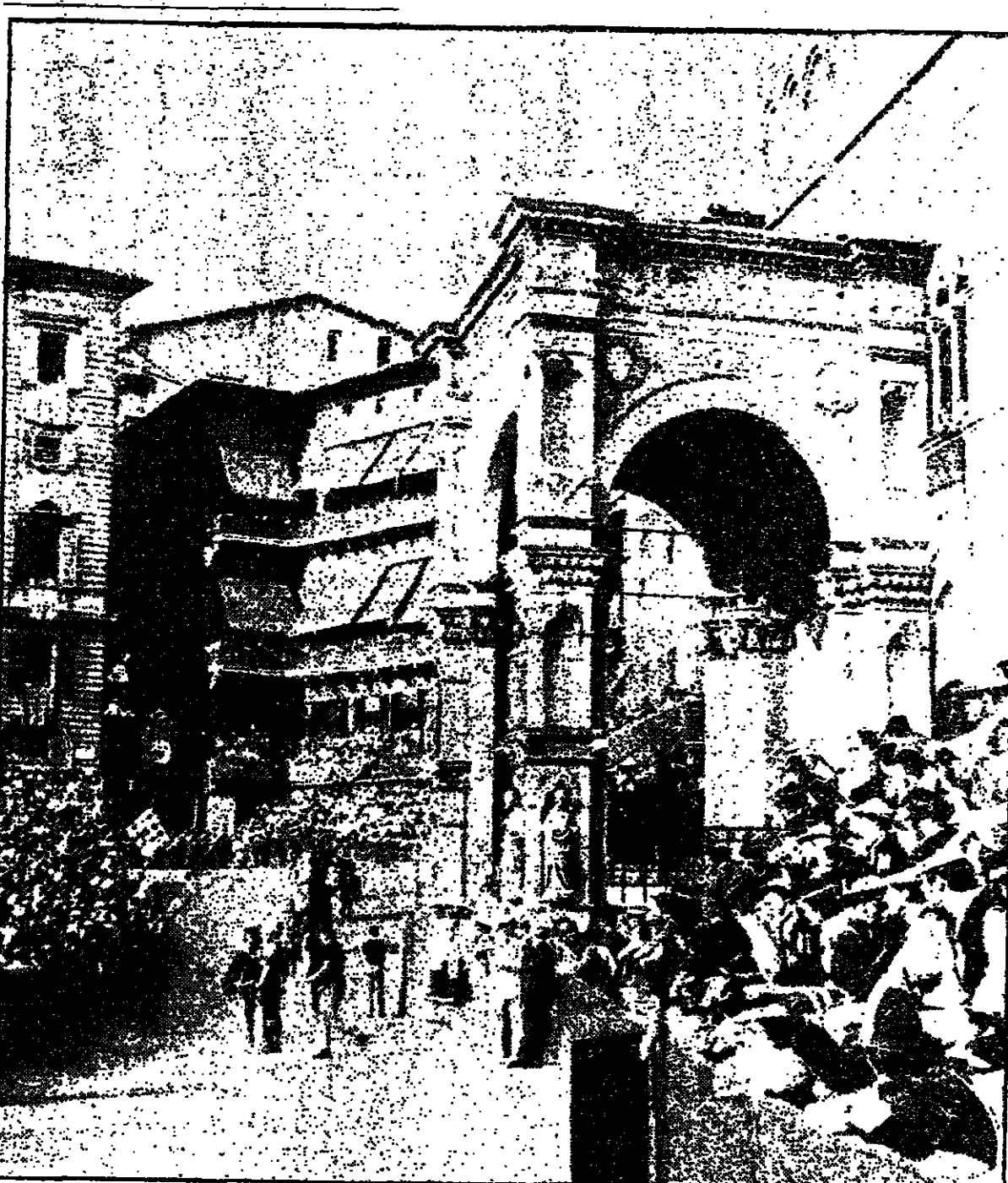
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## CITIES OF TUSCANY



The crowd entering into the spirit of the festival at the Palio in Siena.

## A moving scene of culture

fair Verona, where we saw the 10-day festival, although members of the National Artistic Fund had met in the airfield (throw-Milan) and lunch at Lodi. No need there to remember Tennyson's "a plague of rain!" September was quietly a plague of rain! The Early Renaissance monuments of east Italy.

It was the official title of the festival: about 1000 years of Italian art and culture. The festival was held in the airfield (throw-Milan) and lunch at Lodi. No need there to remember Tennyson's "a plague of rain!" September was quietly a plague of rain! The Early Renaissance monuments of east Italy.

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## Where history blocks progress

The Florence of the international tourist circuit is a small, noisy, and overcrowded oasis in a modern city of nearly half a million people. I do not particularly recommend the train journey, which is a gruelling 25 hours from London, but it does take you right into the heart of the city of Florence. You will probably be going to see.

The car journey from Milan and Bologna in the north, or Naples in the south, along the Autostrada del Sole, brings the tourist through the part you will probably not want to see, as though the Italian visitor to Oxford had somehow started his visit in the thoroughly modern Cowley.

The first such journey I made was an unpleasant surprise. I recall a series of ugly factories, garages and petrol tankers. Agip, Agip everywhere.

If you fly to Florence, and you can do so by charter flight from Luton or Gatwick for as little as £80, you will arrive at San Gimignano airport, near Pisa, about 50 miles away. But try to avoid the experience of two friends of mine whose charter aircraft arrived some hours late in Pisa, where they discovered that they had missed the last train to Florence and decided to sleep in an uncomfortable night in the railway station. Fly early in the day and you should be able to see the leaning tower before going on to Florence.

The most important consideration about your stay is the time of year. July and August can be unbearably hot and Englishmen should leave it to mad dogs to go out in the midday sun. One August week I spent in a flat opposite the Pitti Palace was so hot that I never ventured out till late afternoon.

The art galleries in some Italian cities provide a blessed cool, but the Uffizi can be stifling and appallingly crowded. I have seen other shades (and, I suppose, culture) seekers.

In this extraordinary heat it is not surprising that everything shuts down at lunchtime and reopens in the afternoon after a siesta or maybe just one of those three or four-hour Italian meals. Between 4 pm and 8 pm is the most pleasant time of the day: you can do your shopping or go for a walk in the Boboli Gardens.

On the other hand if you go in winter it can be shockingly cold. Then Florence can be deep in snow while in Britain it is fairly mild. So aim for March to June or if not later September and October.

I have in front of me a tourist brochure for Florence. It praises the vast organization that takes care of the guests of the city. They are offered a wide choice among more than 400 hotels and boarding houses able to accommodate more than 19,000 people daily, as well as camping sites and youth hostels. Unfortunately these hordes of tourists hinder one's enjoyment of the city. The *lingua franca* there is, sadly, American.

Florentines give the impression that they would be very glad to get rid of the tourists. While they would prefer to build up the city as a modern banking, design and education centre, the burden of history is heavy. The fact that foreigners demand that historic buildings be preserved seems in the way of progress. So the Florentines take the tourist money with ill-grace, through the usual channels of rather poor tourist restaurants and seemingly endless shops selling terrible tourist trash, as well as (sometimes) through the less usual channels of theft.

To enjoy Florence we must leave the tourists behind. Unfortunately for the visitor, Italian life is centred on the home. Food and drink are normally taken there, not in restaurants, bars or night clubs.

So the best way to enjoy Florence is to stay with an Italian family, or at least take a meal or two with one. There in somebody's home you can sample the delights of Italian cooking. Italian mothers, I found, really are like Joan Plowright in *Saturday, Sunday, Monday*, dominating and endlessly caring of their menfolk. Our evening meal would start at about 8 pm and go on till about midnight, five or six courses washed down with rivers of wine and brandy.

Another way to live in Florence is to rent a flat, going out for your cooked meals and bringing in bottled meat, ham and salami, cheese and dairy products, vegetables and fruit, cakes and wine. On one holiday I survived admirably on strawberries and sparkling wine. If Florentines eat and drink at home till late in the evening, they often go to the cinema late at night, at 10 or 11 o'clock. Italians are still great cinemagoers and even if you know no Italian I can recommend a visit to the cinema late at night. You will probably pick up the gist of the film and at any rate the dialogue will not be spoiled by the Italian custom of discussing the film at length during the performance and reacting loudly to everything.

In summer there is a programme of American films and often a travelling American theatre company. I recall seeing a marvellous production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* at a makeshift outdoor theatre in a garden. It too started at about 11 o'clock and finished at about 1.30.

## Medieval jewel on a hilltop

If Florence, the provincial capital, is the brightest jewel in the Tuscan crown, other sparkling gems invite discovery. Siena is smaller and much more manageable. The days of the rivalry between the two great centres of art and learning have long since vanished, although you will still hear discussions as to whether the Florentines or the Sienesi speak the purest Italian.

My first visit to Siena was an hilarious introduction to its treasures and pleasures. I arrived to record a radio programme on a lovely September day. Our hosts, who had agreed to help us, pointed out a few fluffy little clouds in the brilliant blue sky and, gesticulating animatedly, said we would not be able to work that day.

Several minutes later, we realized that they thought we planned a television programme and not a radio one. That misunderstanding resolved, there was a frenzied bout of telephoning and, half an hour later, they had drawn up a schedule to fill the next two days. I could have done without one or two places on their list but, emphasizing their praise-worthy concern with conservation, they insisted on including a pasta factory subtly hidden within the perfectly preserved exterior of a deconsecrated sixteenth-century convent.

In some indefinable way, Siena seems to have succeeded in preserving its medieval character. The city is still divided into *contrade*, or guilds, which compete twice a year—on July 2 and August 16—for the silken banner, the *palio*, in the annual breakfast horse races over the uneven surface of the shell-shaped Piazza del Campo. There the slender outlines of the great Mangia Tower on the Palazzo Pubblico soar upward towards the sky.

The *palio*, which is probably the oldest phenomenon in the Italian sporting calendar, is much more than a dangerous and colourful equestrian event. A fusion of the secular with the sacred, the *palio* tradition has been handed down with few variations over the centuries. Whether a member of the Eagle, Porcupine or She-wolf, the Sienese's loyalty is to the *contrada*, the city ward second, and he admits also to being, incidentally, Italian.

As the two great days come around there are spectacular processions, and trumpet accompaning the dextrous display of furling and unfurling of banners, reverberating around the square. The going is always hard on this particular track, and copious draughts of chianti are downed by those attending the subsequent banquets. The race, verbally rerun time and time again, remains the main topic of discussion.

With the single dramatic exception of the coloured marble facade of the cathedral, dominating the hilltop town, Siena is all of the colour to which it has lent

its name. In a gorgeous huddle of higgledy-piggledy rooftops, the tiles blend in the evening sun with the time-weathered, warm, melon-brown brick.

I would willingly return there often, if only to visit the Piccolomini Library within the great cathedral, where the colours on the series of paintings by Pinturicchio of scenes from the life of Pius II, the Sienese Pope, are as vivid today as when they were painted more than four centuries ago and where the extraordinary perspective draws you right into the pictures. In the museum adjoining the cathedral, the great collection of masterpieces by Duccio, including his *Maestà*, which fills one entire wall, is beautifully displayed and imaginatively lit.

Siena is, too, a city of fountains—some of them still in use—with the Fonte Gaia, and the Fonte Branda which gave its name to the district where Caterina Benincasa was born. She was to become St Catherine of Siena, and the great Dominican basilica, which has some architectural features in common with the fortified churches or bastides in France, is dedicated to her.

If you visit San Domenico, go down below the church to what appears to be a big crypt but is the restored original church, a place of simple dignity and quiet beauty, which contrasts with the somewhat over-elaborate and fussy ornamentation in the hundred other churches in Siena.

The richness of the urban architecture has its natural counterpart in the countryside and the fertile Arbia Valley surrounding Siena. To a weaver's eye the soil on which the vines producing the finest and authentic chianti classico grow seems stony, harsh and unyielding. The beef, in a country where real predominates on the menu, is superb. The region also produces the finest olive oil.

Siena is a good base from which to explore the Tuscan villages and the rich countryside, with vines growing in profusion and the unmistakable and distinctive silver-green foliage of acacia upon acres of venerable and gnarled olive trees.

It is a pleasant drive to Pisa. The Italians have such a wealth of art treasures that they are sometimes accused of not keeping them in a proper state of repair, and it was on a recent visit that I was told, in a matter-of-fact way, that experts had calculated that the leaning tower would finally collapse before the year 2020. This may prompt someone to take action before it is too late.

It was the Italian soldier-poet Gabriele D'Annunzio who, taking time off from annexing Fiume with a private army, gave the felicitous name The Square of Miracles to the imposing ecclesiastical trilogy of the cathedral, the baptistry with its extraordinary acoustics, properties which create the famous echo, and the tower.

Nicholas Christopher

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## MR BREZHNEV'S BIRTHDAY

Mr Brezhnev may well feel that his tributes may receive from the West on the occasion of his twenty-third birthday, which fell yesterday, are insincere. Compliments from adversaries are always suspect. Nevertheless, the West is not wholly blind to the fact that he and his elderly colleagues in the Politburo, whose average age is now passing twenty, have pursued their own ends of their nation's interests with consistency, competence and steadily deepening experience. Of course they have manoeuvred for advantage against the West, which has won far less consistency of purpose, but they have done so without undue risks or loss of sight of the need for areas of co-operation. In a dangerous and unstable world it is no bad thing to be dealing with leaders of this sort.

Unlike Mr Khrushchev they do not talk about achieving communism by 1980, or by any finite date. Unlike him they have not brought their country to the brink of nuclear war over the Berlin. Unlike him they have not tried to shake up the internal bureaucracy. Unlike him, unfortunately, they have not achieved the liberalization of culture and the release of political prisoners. Instead they have been their country and the world's stable and slow-moving leader, in which is essentially decisive in spite of the rationality cult which now surrounds Mr Brezhnev. They present the cooling of the viet revolution and its replacement by elements of older soviet conservatism.

For the Soviet people this has

disadvantages. They are offered material advances. Economic growth is slowing to the point of immobility. The system is proving too inflexible to respond to world changes or to the expectations of consumers. For the rest of the world, however, there are compensations. The Soviet Union no longer appeals as a model to the intellectual left of the West as it did in the inter-war years. Nor has it managed to keep the moral credit it accumulated during the Second World War and to some extent during the subsequent period of decolonization. It can still offer the third world arms, soldiers and a political philosophy to justify one-party government and a state-controlled economy, but the wider potency it once sought as a revolutionary power has been largely dissipated. The West in spite of all its troubles, emerges with greater moral confidence.

Thus, Mr Brezhnev's involuntary gift to the West is an indirect result of his cautious conservatism. The other side of the coin is that the Soviet Union is now for the first time a truly global military power. This is Mr Brezhnev's greatest achievement, even if it can be questioned whether it represents the most rational use of the Soviet Union's resources. Throughout his leadership, except for some brief intervals, Soviet military spending has increased at an annual rate of 3 to 5 per cent until it now consumes well over 10 per cent of the national income. As a result the Soviet Union has achieved approximate parity with the United States and is moving into superiority in some respects. It has also

achieved the ability to mount operations in almost any part of the world.

In the hands of Mr Brezhnev this power has been used with caution and mostly indirectly through Cubans or East Germans in situations where there was little or no risk of a direct confrontation with the United States. It has even been withdrawn when not wanted, as it was from Egypt. Such prudence and realism in the pursuit of advantage is what the West has learned to respect. We may yearn for a Soviet leadership which shows less desire to expand and more to shoulder common responsibilities for peace and economic development but at least we have one which is not excited by risks.

The worry now is that his successors could be less prudent. Unscarred by memories of the war, inexperienced in diplomacy, fascinated by the power at their disposal and possibly without the teams of westernized advisers which Mr Brezhnev has sensibly built up, they could miscalculate. How likely is this? On the one hand it can be argued that the lack of machinery for the orderly transfer of power in the Soviet Union heightens the risk of a sudden lurch. On the other hand the building constraints are very considerable. The Soviet system resists disruption. Moreover, even if pressure for significant change does break through it is more likely to be aimed at revitalizing the economy. The objective constraints on foreign policy are stronger. Yet the risks are there, and they earn a measure of appreciation for Mr Brezhnev. Change could still be for the worse.

## MAKING THE DOLE OFF THE INDEX

Along the public expenditure is that the Government is now contemplating are two possible changes in social security benefits that have inevitably provoked strong criticism. One is to adjust the level of unemployment benefit so as to keep in line with the cost-of-living. The other is to make employers responsible for sick pay during the first eight weeks off work, in employers being compensated by lower national insurance contributions. This portion of the benefit at least would be subject to tax. Both these changes would save good deal of public money, though exactly how much would depend on how far unemployment benefit was allowed to lag behind prices. They would also reduce the poverty trap in that they would find that they were as well or even better when out of a job.

These are both sensible objectives. The need to cut public expenditure is by now familiar enough. It is essential if inflation is to be brought under control and interest rates reduced to their present high level. In spite of cuts should be affected as far as possible without hurting the poorest members of the community. It is because prob-

ably both of these changes — and certainly the fall in the real level of unemployment benefit — would have that effect that they are so contentious. It is also true that if benefit is paid at a reasonable rate it is possible for a fairly high level of unemployment to be endured for a period of time without the social effects being too damaging.

But these arguments cannot be conclusive at a time when the country is heading towards a recession and the national income is expected to fall. The Government would be expected to obtain some of the required size without inflicting some pain. No matter how desirable it is to maintain social security benefits at a high level, the capacity to do so must be related to what the country can afford. There is also the consideration that if unemployment benefit were to be kept in line with prices at a time when the national income is falling, the disincentive to work would become all the greater and would apply to more people.

There are few areas where anecdotal evidence is more available. Many of the accounts of people living fraudulently off social security are no more than tall stories. But the poverty trap is nonetheless a reality. Flat rate

unemployment benefit for a couple with two children amounted last year to almost 49 per cent of average net male earnings. As there are by definition many people earning below the average, it follows that there must have been a good many families which would have been better off with the father out of a job. This is socially corrosive. It is unhealthy for the people directly concerned to have no financial incentive to get a job. It is also a cause of bitterness that others should be pointing the finger of scorn at those on social security, in such circumstances it can all too easily be assumed, quite unfairly, that they are all scroungers.

It will therefore not be unreasonable if unemployment benefit falls a little way behind the movement of prices. Many of the same arguments apply to the proposed change in sickness benefit, but it will be necessary to study the details when the Green Paper is published in the spring. In principle it is all right to transfer some of the responsibility to employers. But eight weeks is a long time and it will be necessary to ensure that some of those who are off work for no fault of their own are not left without adequate support at all.

"Dark satanic mills" was a meaningless concept for the youth of today which had the benefit of many years of Labour legislation in the field of Health and Safety at Work. Besides, the hymn contained military imagery of a type which could only be described as obscene. The old hymn also contained traces of outmoded social attitudes like the sexism of "Goodnight Ladies" and the Uncle Tomism of "The Old Folks at Home". The new edition would concentrate on material relevant to the coming ideological struggle and would include alternative musical settings of the lyrics of surplus value.

A source close to Mr Callaghan said it was too early to comment: "We will know better where we stand when the new anthem 'Glad to be Gay' has been introduced at the Durham Miners' Gala."

## THE LABOUR HYMNAL, SERIES THREE

Liturgical revision on the Labour Party's hymn, also known as the Socialist Songbook. Leaked poems now in draft form are being sent among the faithful. It is expected to be the subject of anxious debate at the session of the party's general synod in October.

The old hymn, the Edward version, embodies that sense of continuity and timeless dogma which is such a valued part of experience of regular attendance at ward meetings. It has a certain quality in its use down the years, only on great occasions in Blackpool Winter gardens where two or three party members are gathered together, many it is more than the estral voice of the English king class: as Prebendary fer expresses it, "They are just changing a form of

worship. They are messing about with the national heritage." A spokesman for the revision committee claims that that point of view is sufficiently catered for by inclusion in the new draft of more than a dozen numbers found in the Edward VII Hymnal, such as "The Red Flag" and "I am the Man, the Very Fat Man, who Waters the Workers' Beer". It hardly needed saying that Labour hymn-singing should be done "in a tongue understood of the people". Young people in particular demanded contemporary values and relevance to the present day.

There had been some criticism, the spokesman said, of the omission of "Jerusalem". But its original inclusion had always been questionable in view of the fact that it was composed by an individualist called William Blake before the foundation of the labour movement proper.

## ie Camp David accords

Mr Fawziya Makhlouf

I would like to complement Mr Fawziya Makhlouf's article (December 10) about the need for the Arab states to rethink their position relative to President Sadat and the Camp David Accords. However, as the official representative in the United Kingdom of the Egyptian Progressive National Unionist Party, I find necessary to clarify two aspects of the party leader's statements to vent any possible misunderstanding of Mr Mortimer's article. These

2. The second point deals with his views on the present impasse created by the failure of Camp David Accords to bring about a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. While he criticized the Arab stand for restricting itself to denouncing the treaty as null and void, he also criticized strongly the United States public stand for insisting that any new initiative must be based on the Accords, when these were in principle wrongly conceived and in practice have increased the tension in the Middle East.

On national grounds, Mr Mohieddin advocates the two remaining options:

A. Parties concerned, and this implies the recognition of the PLO.

B. An international initiative, under the United Nations auspices, which enable all interested parties to work out a viable formula for comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Both options can be pursued separately from the bilateral treaty whose future lies with genuine democratic developments in Egypt. Yours faithfully, FAWZIYA MAKHLOUF, NUP Official Representative in the UK, 21 Brookfield Park, Parliament Hill Fields, NW5, December 16.

## In need of benefit

From Mr W. E. Baugh

Sir, During the course of her interesting article on Professor David Donnison, chairman of the Supplementary Benefits Commission, December 12, Par Healy writes: "there are no signs that the Government is taking any steps to reduce the enormous numbers of people depending on supplementary benefits".

What, then, has happened to the commitment of the Conservative Party to introduce a tax-credit scheme where, on the basis of one completed tax form, a person would receive credit or pay tax? Although only a modest tax-credit scheme was proposed so that national insurance and supplementary benefit would still continue but on a reduced scale, it was argued that the scheme would greatly reduce the number of people having to claim supplementary benefit.

Perhaps, if the Government would spend as much energy helping the poor as it does the rich, the technical difficulties which are supposed to be holding up the implementation of the scheme would be speedily overcome. Yours faithfully, W. E. BAUGH, 16 Farlands Drive, East Didsbury, Manchester.

## Changing the writ of summons

From Sir John Watley

Sir, I have no desire or, indeed, qualification to discuss the technical details of proposals for changes in the writ of summons. But I was shocked to find the Lord Chancellor, in his letter of December 17, twice refer to Her Majesty as "the Queen (ie the Government)".

Under our Constitution, the Queen appoints our governments, but she is not to be identified with them or their actions. She is our symbol of the national interest in the good government of all Her People, to suggest that she is anything less than this, in an age when governments are increasingly seen as embodiments of political party, will be both to her and her constitutional function.

It should not, however, surprise the Lord Chancellor's legal critics to find a change of constitutional practice being put through as a mere technical improvement. This one would, at least, seem to have been examined by eminent members of the legal profession.

In the 50 years since I entered Her Majesty's Civil Service, I have seen constitutional changes of much greater importance being made without any comparable examination, either publicly or in private. I will cite two.

First, when, and when was it decided to abandon the old form of writ of summons to a meeting of the Cabinet which was a "Meeting of the King's Servants". This constant reminder that Ministers of the Crown were servants of the monarch, was certainly accepted quite happily by the first Labour Government.

Second, what anonymous official decided to think it more appropriate after the defeat of the Attlee Government, that incoming Ministers must not be allowed access to the Cabinet records or other policy papers of their predecessors, presumably because the papers might show that the outgoing Ministers had not always acted in the National Interest?

No such restrictions were thought necessary when the political parties alternated in forming the Queen's Governments during the inter-war years.

I was then told, as a part of my training, that it was "not done" to cite, at least on paper, party considerations, for or against, any proposed course of action. Yours faithfully, JOHN WATLEY, 46 Rotherwick Road, NW11, December 18.

From Miss Lynn Kirkham

Sir, The Lord Chancellor apologized at the end of his letter for wasting so much of your space. I regret that I did not seek to use some of it to answer Mr Watley's complaint, namely that the Rules Committee does not make public its proposals and invite comment on them before making or altering Rules.

A reply in the form of a change in the Committee's proceedings in this respect would be a reasonable and economical of your space. Yours truly, LYNN KIRKHAM, President, 3 Gray's Inn Square, WC1, December 18.

Splitting the ITV regions

From Lady Ploeden

Sir, A letter which the Lancaster Television Consortium has made public has led to misunderstanding. May I explain?

The IBA has indeed been discussing ITV regions (report, December 19), and conducting surveys, and holding more than 300 public meetings. But the discussion concerns how the transmitters, which we share with the BBC, should be allocated to franchise areas.

The area served by any particular transmitter can be allocated as the Authority decides. For example, it was possible in 1968 to allocate a main transmitter from the North-West area to create the Yorkshire region, but the area covered by one transmitter cannot be subdivided. The main area of the North-West which receives its main signal from Winter Hill alone cannot be divided by the use of extra transmitters or frequencies. The reason is that Government policy gives priority to getting television to unserved areas, rather than to allocating frequencies and resources to areas which are already served.

These are facts of life. We have explained them to anyone who has asked, including the Lancaster Television Consortium. Yours faithfully, BRIDGET PLOWDEN, Chairman, Independent Broadcasting Authority, 70 Brompton Road, SW3, December 19.

The Silvestri family

From Mr J. M. Trotter

Sir, With reference to your law report (December 13) of the Court of Appeal's decision on December 12 1979 in the case of Silvestri v Crawley Borough Council, you stated in your summary of facts that: "Before the Silvestri family left [Italy] they heard that a flat they had been promised was no longer available; they nevertheless came."

Whether or not my client Mr Silvestri knew that the accommodation arranged for his family had been cancelled is a matter in issue which remains to be established at the trial. My client, his wife, and the brother-in-law who made the vital telephone call from Redhill to Italy, have always forcefully maintained that the call came through after they left Naples, so that the Silvestris only got the news after they arrived in England. Affidavits to this effect have been sworn. Yours faithfully, JOHN M. TROTTER, Bates, Wells & Braithwaite, Solicitors, 81 Carter Lane, EC4, December 19.

Safety first

From Dr J. A. Muir Gray

Sir, It is encouraging to see your columns used to discuss the means by which a car can be made safer, expressed by one driver to another: "I use the uplighted hand and solemn forward lowering of the head because anything which reduces tension and anger promotes safer driving. May I commend three other hand signals which promote safer driving if used in the pub or at a party."

Firstly, the uplighted hand, palm forward — as though, taking an oath: this, accompanied by a smile and a shake of the head means: "No thanks, I won't have any alcohol, I'm driving."

The second is the outstretched hand, palm down, tilted slightly upwards, like a Papal blessing. This, accompanied by a stern look, means: "Don't keep pressing on, friend to have another alcoholic drink; he's trying to refuse politely because he is driving."

The third is the hand cupped under a friend's elbow accompanied by the words: "Let's take a taxi and collect your car tomorrow; it will be much safer."

Those who drink and drive kill and maim themselves and other people and impose a tremendous burden on the National Health Service which must use resources to treat such injuries. They therefore injure people other than those directly involved because the resources they consume cannot be used for services such as domiciliary nursing and renal transplantation. Some people will drink and drive whatever the circumstances. Many

## Letters to the Editor

Britain's independent nuclear deterrent

From Lieutenant-General Sir John Copley

Sir, In November, 1959, I gave a speech at the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies on the subject of "Future trends in warfare". In it I made a comment on the policy of this country paying large and increasing sums of money to maintain and updating our "independent nuclear deterrent".

You were kind enough to report my speech and indeed to write a leading article about it on November 12, 1959.

Since my retirement from the Army, I have assumed that the defence of this country has been to rely on the strength of the Western Alliance, headed by the United States, against a possible military threat by the Soviet bloc.

Yesterday evening I watched on BBC 1 a discussion on this subject between Mr Francis Pym and Field Marshal Lord Cattermole. I was struck to learn that our official government policy still is to maintain and update at great expense an "independent nuclear deterrent".

A deterrent must imply not only a threat but an intention to use it. It is, however, unlikely, in circumstances such as a situation could arise when we, independently, will use our nuclear weapons to destroy certain targets in Soviet Russia at the expense of the total annihilation of Great Britain. Mr Pym was wrong in the hope that this would never happen, but the official policy makes it clear that it might.

Would it not be more sensible to spend the enormous sum of money required to update the deterrent on providing our Navy, Army and Air Force with more and better conventional arms and equipment — and leaving the terrifying and easily expensable and of bluff to the two super powers?

Yours faithfully, JOHN COWLEY, Whitmore, Sandy Down, Bolderie, Lymington, Hampshire, December 11.

rely on an American inter-continental thermo-nuclear counter-attack on the USSR with the near certainty, now that the Americans have lost their former undoubted superiority in this field, that the damage this would cause throughout the Soviet Union, would be matched by a similar degree of damage to the destruction in the USA.

In any event, even if the President of the day, in Washington, were to take such a mutually self-defeating step it would bring no relief to her already defeated European NATO partners.

Today the only tactical nuclear weapons that we are in a position to deploy against such a Soviet attack are capable solely of reaching targets in the reluctantly hostile, potentially friendly satellites: while the multi-headed SS20s and Backfire bombers which the Russians already possess in such numbers have a range sufficient to devastate the whole of Western Europe including the UK.

Hence the urgent need not only to strengthen our conventional forces, but to establish a new deterrent capacity, in the tactical nuclear field. Hence also the Russian determination by all means at their disposal to prevent us doing so.

Yours etc, F. BENNETT, House of Commons, December 11.

From Professor N. F. Kember

Sir, On learning that the Government has agreed to the deployment of 160 cruise missiles on this small island, I decided to inform myself on Civil Defence Measures. A trip to HMSO revealed that only one booklet was available, *Nuclear Weapons*, price 86p.

It required some study to discover with reference to 20 MT nuclear bomb on Westminster that if I am at home in Pinner and not at work in the City I am safe from blast effects (only moderate damage to the house, section 7.12), from heat effects (unless I am in the garden, 5.7), wearing cotton outer garments, 5.11) and that my car will not be severely displaced (7.14). Should the wind be SE, however, I would receive a lethal dose from fallout in a few hours even inside the house (sections 8.17 & 8.19). There is no mention of Civil Defence arrangements apart from the Warning and Monitoring Organization (3.1) and the "debris problem" (7.16).

If this Government reaffirms its trust in the diplomatic nuclear deterrent, it has some duty to warn the public of the consequences of the failure of that policy — it does so continuously on economic matters. Perhaps a fraction of the £35 million for new missile sites should be spent keeping the public up to date on Civil Defence Precautions.

Yours sincerely, N. F. KEMBER, Physics Department, The Medical College of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Charterhouse Square, EC1, December 13.

Saving energy

From Mr T. C. F. Pittie

Sir, Events in Iran and, to a minor extent, in Saudi Arabia and Libya should be reminders that there is a real danger of a world shortage of oil in the near future, of a potentially much more serious nature than that of 1973-4. A sharp drop in oil prices in this country that Britain will be "all right" because of North Sea oil. This is myopic in the extreme — if there is a serious oil shortage, Britain will be under great pressure to help her EEC partners. As they are friends and allies, Britain should not just be ready to help them, but should want to do so.

In any case, our country is becoming a net importer of oil. Energy conservation is desirable, whether or not an energy crisis is just round the corner. There are steps which the Government should, and practically can, take. But the British public should be invited to cooperate, voluntarily. Driving their cars at a sensible speed saves lives, as well as petrol. This is not happening, and one notes, that the latest cars on the roads have the least regard for national interests.

Then, why not "car sharing" by commuters and others? It is being done in the United States, a far richer country than ours. I walk to work, which is good for my liver as well as my pocket, and every morning I see an unending stream

of commuter-cars, one man (seldom a woman) at the wheel, intent on a "comfortable run to work". No passenger ever. One is equally impressed by the sheer, stupid waste and the total absence of enlightened neighbourliness.

We are not just a poor nation, but a wasteful one. It is little consolation that the country is rich when it eventually descends, will sever the empty skulls from joy-riding trunks.

Yours faithfully, TERENCE PRITTE, 9 Blithfield Street, W8, December 6.

From Mr Peter Fontes

Sir, As a sufferer in an over-heated office in a nationalised industry, may I point out to your correspondent Messrs Williams and Sampson (December 10 and 14) that all is not quite so hot.

When I mentioned to our office administrator that I consistently heating my office to a temperature in the mid-eighties in winter was both oppressive and extremely uneconomical, he, mindful of the requirements of the 1976 Energy Act, immediately offered me an electric fan to cool the office down to the regulation temperature. I remain, Sir, Yours faithfully, PETER FONTES, 12 Manorcroft Road, Egham, Surrey, December 17.

Steadying the Ark

From the Principal of Heythrop College

Sir, In your issue editorial on the Schillebeekx affair (December 14) you distinguish nicely between theological outsiders and the Church's magisterium proceeding with the caution appropriate to those bearing the Ark. But where would you place the poor wagon driver, Uzzah, who put out his hand to steady the Ark on its uneven journey to Jerusalem? He was struck dead (2 Sam 6:7). Yours faithfully, JOHN MAHONEY SJ, Heythrop College, 11-13 Cavendish Square, W1.

God's messenger

From Mr Christopher Dymont

Sir, Salieri was as popular then as Mr Alpert (letter, December 12) is now. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER DYMONT, 25 Ladbrooke Gardens, W11.

## Charities and VAT

From Mr K. R. Smith

Sir, A client wants to build covered swimming pool, cost £100,000. VAT nil. Canterbury cathedral appeals for £30,000 for repairs. VAT £39,000. Dr Barnardo's, Orflem, Shelter. You name them, they pay it whenever they need to keep the roof on. Better build a swimming pool!

A Zero Rated prize for anyone who can think of anything sillier. Yours faithfully, KENNETH R. SMITH, 35 Stratford Road, Watford, Hertfordshire, December 18.

From the Reverend P. E. de Warburton

Sir, Repairs to churches are serious enough, but here we have to rebuild the entire church, destroyed by arson in May. If we pulled down our remaining Saxon and other stones, we could save ourselves some £35,000. But is this what the nation really wants?

Hale Parish Church, near Liverpool, was similarly burned and found their VAT assessment increased from £20,000 to £22,000 at the end of the year. If the walls would pay no VAT if the walls were pulled down and a "new" church built.

If the £400,000 total cost we have to raise £150,000, and because we have the right to restore and preserve what can be saved, we have set ourselves to find it, knowing that 25 per cent of this is not for building but for tax. Yours faithfully, PETER DE WARBURTON, Vicar of St Peter's, Valey, Camberley, Surrey.

British Steel closures

From Mr D. M. A. Doeh

Sir, I can well believe that Professor Thornton's view expressed in your columns of December 18, is, as he says, uncoloured by nationalist sentiment; he obviously has no conception of the United Kingdom as a nation with national problems. If he had any, he would have considered the following:

a) The social factor. If people with power and influence — clause four socialists? — or otherwise — do not start to take more seriously into account the economic factors, the community that will be destroyed is the whole of the kingdom. The number of people whose way of life and prospects will be destroyed if that happens is very considerably more than the 9,500 employed at Llanwern.

b) The skill factor. One of the worst constraints on economic expansion in British industry has consistently been a shortage of skilled labour. It is a waste from everyone's point of view for able people to be kept in unproductive jobs when they are needed elsewhere. Our tax money would be very much better spent retraining and relocating people for jobs worth doing in places that can provide sufficiently fluid labour markets for them to have a chance of living fulfilling working lives for the foreseeable future. Why does Professor Thornton assume that the world as it used to be must be the best of all possible ones?

c) The capital factor. If we follow Professor Thornton's advice, we will be too poor to make any capital investments, let alone maintain Llanwern. Anyway, maintaining the plant is a very different matter from keeping it running; if production is run down or suspended, it might be better to demolish the plant in condition to take advantage of an upsurge in demand if there is one.

d) The attitude factor. The fact that Professor Thornton rarely meets people who make a mistake in their work may be a reflection on the circles in which he mixes. Again, if the labour force at Llanwern are such fine fellows, they may be more useful to themselves and the rest of society painfully employed in productive industries elsewhere, and money would be better spent retraining and relocating them.

If Professor Thornton really feels that the Llanwern plant should be maintained, I suggest that he make a written offer of a specific sum to the British Steel Corporation. Perhaps if enough other people were to make such offers, the BSC might be so private and issue them shares. I do not see why Mr Doeh is made to contribute his tax money to a wasteful cause when it can be better spent otherwise at a time when the nation as a whole is in perilous economic decline. Yours faithfully, D. M. A. DOEH, 1 Callow Street, SW3, December 18.

Closure of consulates

From Mrs Norman Reddaway

Sir, A quote from a Christmas message from Sweden —

"The people of Gothenburg are mad about the planned 'dropping' of your Consulate-General here. The American C-G has also been reduced, while the Russians are building a glorious new office, with large staff."

Yours etc, JEAN REDDAWAY, 51 Carlton Hill, NW8.

Christmas post

From Mr Vician Vale

Sir, I have just received a circular letter from an officer of one of our numerous book clubs. Below his signature stand the words "Fulfilment Director". Is this titular novelty, I wonder, the most exact contemporary rendering of "Father Christmas", or have any of your readers come across an even apter equivalent? Yours faithfully, VIVIAN VALE, The Warden's Lodge, South Stoneham House, Swythampton, Southampton, December 17.















# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

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### Bank of England predicts inflation and recession will raise state borrowing

By Caroline Atkinson

Government borrowing may rise next year, according to the Bank of England, though it adds that such a rise could be compatible with continued tight control of the money supply.

The Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin published yesterday contains a lengthy discussion of the influences on the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR). This concludes that the combined effects of inflation and recession next year will tend to push up the PSBR.

The Government has not published a forecast of the PSBR for next year. To some extent, this depends on the results of the present emergency exercise to cut public spending next year, and on the results of the Treasury's internal forecasts for next year. The PSBR is expected to be about £3,000m in 1980-81.

The Bank appears to be hoping that, by discussing the reasons for a rise, it will allay City fears that a loosening of money control follows necessarily from a rise in the PSBR.

The Bank is more optimistic than the Treasury about next year's economic prospects. It foresees a slide into recession, although

it says the timing is very uncertain, with output down by 1 to 2 per cent. The Treasury has forecast a 2 per cent drop. Inflation is expected to slow down next year, though the Bank is cautious about the prospects for a sharp reduction. It says that both lower wage rises and higher productivity will be needed to bring price inflation down.

As is usual, the Bank emphasises the need for a firm and clear monetary policy. It does not hold out the hope of an early reduction in interest rates despite the prospect of a lower PSBR in the coming months. The recent rise in Minimum Lending Rate to a record 17 per cent was necessary, it says, to keep pace with the rise in inflationary expectations.

A reduction in interest rates may depend more on bringing down inflation and inflationary expectations than on holding down the PSBR.

The Government has already conceded that the PSBR will rise in line with inflation next year. However, the Bank goes further than this.

It suggests that a drop in output could push up the PSBR but without making it any harder to keep to a given money target. As companies cut back spending and reduce bur-

rowing, this will make it easier for the Government to borrow to finance its deficit.

The Bank is gloomy about the prospects for the world economy next year. To some extent, British exporters may be insulated from the slowdown by a continued rise in United Kingdom markets overseas in particular those of the oil exporting countries.

Sterling's strength is blamed for much of the rapid rise in money and inflation. The Bank expects the pound to remain fairly strong. The drastic deterioration in British competitiveness has still probably to feed through to exports, and the Bank warns that further weakening of British competitiveness could "strangle the dynamic forces of expansion" which it expects by the end of 1981. Recovery after next year's recession depends to a large extent on bringing down inflation.

In common with other forecasters, the Bank expects a tight squeeze on company profits next year. Manufacturing output, which has performed dismally, is likely to bear the brunt of the slowdown. The Bank foresees rising unemployment.

Companies may be forced to make workers redundant despite employment protection legislation.

### Average pay rises now running at 16.7 pc

By Our Economics Staff

Pay rises accelerated in October, partly as a result of the engineering settlement. Average earnings were 16.7 per cent up on a year earlier, compared with a rise of only 14.4 per cent in September. During the month there was a sharp jump—after seasonal adjustment—of 4.4 per cent in the average earnings in production industries.

Although October's figures exaggerate the underlying monthly increase in pay, they are the first for several months to give a good guide to the annual rate of wage inflation.

This shows a definite quickening in the pace of pay rises. The level of settlements is now running at between 16 and 17 per cent, compared with 15.6 per cent a few months ago.

Ministers have given many warnings that high wage settlements will lead to unemployment. So far the figures indicate that pay bargain has been taken little notice of.

The leap in earnings in October helped to narrow the gap between pay and price rises. However, wages are still failing to keep pace with inflation. The retail price index went up by 17.2 per cent in October, and by 17.4 per cent last month.

Real earnings have been hit this year by the rapid rise in prices, which have caught up with past pay rises and been pushed up by increased VAT. It is largely for this reason that the Treasury is expecting a slow down in consumer spending next year.

The new series of average earnings, which covers employees in the whole economy, rose by 2.7 per cent in October. Half of this jump was caused by the rise in earnings of engineering workers. The dispute in September cut into engineering workers' pay, and there was a rebound in October after the pay settlement.

Extra overtime to make up lost earnings accounted for part of the rise in engineering workers' pay in October.

The figures for average earnings may worsen in the coming months. Last year many settlements were delayed, and workers waited to see whether the Government's pay policy would break down. This had the effect of depressing the monthly figures which will form the basis of comparison in the next few months.

Another factor likely to boost the pay figures is the effect of higher public sector wage settlements in the wake of the Clegg compulsory awards.

The Bank of England estimated in its December bulletin, published yesterday, that these could add 2 per cent to average earnings over the next 12 months.

The Government might argue that it is too soon to be gloomy about the prospects for pay in this round. Only 750,000 workers out of a total of 11.12 million in the big groups had settled by the time of the October figures.

The new series for average earnings, which covers 21 million employees, is likely to rise more quickly than the old series, which covers production workers. The Ombudsman's 16.7 per cent was the highest since the series began.

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### Gold soars towards \$500 before closing at new record price

By Our Economics Staff

Gold soared to within a few dollars of the \$500 an ounce barrier yesterday, but it dropped back to end the day at \$489 an ounce—still a record close.

The rise of \$9.5 came amid hectic activity on the bullion markets. Dealers cited the prospect of higher oil prices and the continuing crisis between America and Iran as the main reasons for the price rise.

Silver also closed at record levels. Surprisingly, the dollar was not much affected by the gold rush. It closed slightly down on the day against most major currencies, after very quiet trading.

The table shows that if countries valued their official gold reserves at yesterday's market prices, the reserves of many, especially the United States, would be enormous.

Frank Vogel writes: The International Monetary Fund will probably continue selling gold at regular auctions after its series of sales ends next May, according to IMF sources in Washington.

The IMF has become a main supplier of gold to the markets and has sold more than 6 million ounces this year. The Fund's programme, initiated four years ago, to sell 25 million ounces, ends with an auction of 44,000 ounces in May, but after this sale it will still have gold reserves of about 100 million ounces.

An IMF spokesman said no decision on whether to sell there has been any formal discussion at senior official level about the possible use of gold within the context of the

### Official Gold holdings of major countries

Country	Value at \$489 an oz. (yesterday's closing price)	m. oz.	\$m.
USA		285.1	129,630
Germany (1)		285.1	129,630
Switzerland (1)		83.3	40,730
France (2)		81.6	39,900
Italy (1)		66.5	32,520
UK (1)		18.3	8,950
oil exporters (2, 3)		36.4	17,800

(1) Figures for end October.

(2) Figures for end September.

(3) Algeria, Indonesia, Iran, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Oman, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela.

planned IMF substitution account. Negotiations are moving ahead to design this account for approval to the Hamburg conference.

A number of key issues have to be resolved in fashioning the account and the sources said that it is here that gold could be used. Firstly, the account will have to provide a market playing a leading role in striving to complete the preparatory negotiations.

Revenue from gold sales could ease this problem. In addition, there is a danger of some exchange market losses in the management of the account and these too, suggest the sources, could be covered by revenues from gold sales.

The need for the substitution account is widely viewed as more urgent than ever and the United States Treasury, according to senior officials, is now playing a leading role in striving to complete the preparatory negotiations.

M de Larosiere told the United States Council of the International Chamber of Commerce in early December that the substitution account could enhance the stability of the world's reserves system.

He added that the account would accept deposits in United States dollars from official holders in exchange for an equivalent amount of special drawing rights—denominated claims, so reducing the dollar share of global reserves in favour of the SDR without creating additional international liquidity.

The United States Treasury does not at the moment appear to be planning major new gold selling programmes of its own for next year.

### CBI takes tougher attitude and aims for abolition of closed shop

By Patricia Tisdall

Confederation of British Industry policy makers hardened their attitude to the closed shop yesterday. After a lengthy debate, the council made it clear that it regarded the Government's Employment Bill as only a first step towards abolition of the closed shop.

The council instructed the steering group, dealing with industrial relations to examine the steps which could eventually give every employee "the freedom to decide whether or not to join a trade union."

Support was given to the idea of a Bill of Rights providing the explicit right not to belong to a trade union, similar to those incorporated in the constitutions of countries like West Germany, France and Italy.

In deciding to aim for an end to the closed shop, the council is endorsing a resolution passed by a narrow margin of 387 votes to 321 at the CBI national conference last month.

This is more militant than previous policy, which was concerned merely to ensure that closed shops operated fairly.

Much of the earlier policy has been incorporated in the Employment Bill, which proposes, for instance, that closed shops should be introduced only after a ballot has established that at least 80 per cent of employees are in favour.

It was clear from yesterday's meeting, however, that many employers are far from satisfied with the proposed legislation. Only fear of causing excessive delays has prevented CBI members from lobbying for more extreme measures. Their

support for the Bill yesterday was conditional on tougher measures being drawn up internally by this time next year at the latest.

Representatives from the Engineering Employers' Federation and from nationalised industries which are among the largest operators of closed shop agreements, were present at yesterday's meeting. Altogether the Trade Unions Congress estimates that 5 million employees work in closed shops.

The latest report on the pay settlements, presented earlier to the council, showed no change on last month.

Information about pay settlements covering 1.25 million employees has been received by the CBI's databank since November 28, bringing the total to 3.25 million. But these show little change.

### Threat to steel fallback pay

By Peter Hill

Industrial Editor

Private sector steel producers, many of whom are facing problems similar to those of the British Steel Corporation, are expected to seek union agreement to suspend guaranteed wage payments when negotiations open today.

Industry sources indicated last night that the Independent Steel Employers' Association would ask union leaders to forego the agreement which gives workers fallback pay of

80 per cent of normal when a steelworks faces a sharp drop in orders.

There will be repercussions in the private sector if the threatened strike by members of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation in BSC plants goes ahead on January 2.

The ISTC has said that it will instruct its members in the private sector to work no extra shifts to offset the shortfall in output from the state corporation.

Sir Richard Marsh, chairman of the British Iron and Steel

Consumers' Council, the steel industry's watchdog, appealed to Mr William Birt, general secretary of the ISTC, to consider the interests of the steel-using industries.

Sir Richard said in a letter to Mr Birt that the stoppage would be extremely serious because for every worker employed by BSC, there were 15 others employed in steel using industries. Any lengthy disruption of supplies, was likely to lead to a number of companies going out of business.

The persistence with which Mr Peter Gyllenhammar, Volvo's president, has pursued partners has led to speculation about the financial vulnerability of his small company.

But M. Vernier-Palliez denied persistent questions suggesting Renault was rescuing Volvo.

He insisted that the first approach had come from Renault and not Volvo.

Mr Gyllenhammar revealed that Volvo had been given to improving the former DAF car company acquired by Volvo.

The deal does not involve Volvo's profitable truck and bus operations nor the marketing of any of its products. This will continue on the basis of "friendly rivalry".

A dramatic restructuring of the world's automotive industry was taking place and today's development was in keeping with it, he said. The partners were convinced that it would prove beneficial.

### Renault takes 10pc stake in Volvo as talks with BL fail

From Clifford Webb

Geneva, Dec 19

M. Bernard Vernier-Palliez, president director general of Renault, today revealed a European motor industry partnership linking the state-owned French group with Sweden's privately owned Volvo concern.

He confirmed that talks with British Leyland have broken down after more than two years. But he hinted that the door was still open.

Asked if further partners would be sought, he said it was impossible to have too many partners.

Renault opened negotiations with BL on components manufacturing in 1977. But the negotiations were interrupted by changes at BL, and by BL's

turn "towards the Far East".

Renault had nothing to gain by linking with the Japanese despite their powerful position in the world's motor industry, he added.

M. Vernier-Palliez's comment on changes at BL is clearly a reference to the much rougher BL approach to the talks which resulted from the arrival of Sir Michael Edwards as chairman.

The second point at issue in the BL-Honda deal for the British company to assemble a Honda car in Britain and market it throughout the EEC.

The Renault chief has made no attempt to disguise his anger at what his colleagues have described as "selling the European" pass to the

Japanese.

He said that Renault had paid £19m for a 10 per cent stake in the Volvo car operations. This could be increased to 20 per cent by June 1986 for a further £18m.

This is the third time in recent years that Volvo has sought major financial links with other companies. A proposed merger with Saab-Scania in 1977 and a 40 per cent stake in Volvo by the Norwegian Government both fell through.

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Mr Peter Gyllenhammar: new priority for DAF



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### Statement likely today on Leyland funding

By Edward Townsend

The Government is expected to make its long awaited announcement on the future funding of British Leyland before the Commons recess tomorrow.

It is understood that a decision on the motor group's 1980 corporate plan and its request for an additional public investment of about £425m was made by ministers some days ago. The announcement to MPs has probably been delayed until Mrs Thatcher's return from the United States.

Sir Michael Edwards, the BL chairman, has made urgent appeals to the Government to reach a decision quickly. He believes BL's programme must begin in earnest as soon after the Christmas holidays as possible if the company is to meet its targets.

A BL spokesman confirmed yesterday that pressure on Whitehall had intensified. "We need to know where we stand and we need to get down to the new plan fast."

Suggestions that more public money for BL is dependent upon the outcome of pay talks covering the company's 90,000 manual workers are being dismissed in Whitehall as having

no bearing on the timing of the announcement.

What is not clear is the role the National Enterprise Board will play in monitoring BL's future activities. Under existing legislation, the NEB is a subsidiary of the NEB but Sir Michael has asked to break that tie.

Under the new NEB draft guidelines, the board's ability to provide funds for BL is greater than for its other subsidiaries but is still restricted to £25m for each project before government consent is necessary.

BL's 1980 corporate plan calls for the provision of the final tranche of £225m from the original £1,000m envisaged by the Ryder plan for the company and a further sum, thought to be about £200m, for its reorganisation and redundancy programme.

Much of the £225m would go towards implementing the proposed deal between BL and Honda leading to the assembly in the United Kingdom of a Honda designed and engineered car.

It is hoped that the formal signing of the agreement with Honda will take place by the end of this year.

Established Spanish builder Costa del Sol (East) seeks important Estate Agency in England for exclusive representation.

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### Business Diary, page 19

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### Financial Editor, page 19

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## PERSONAL CHOICE

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Daville

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

12.45 pm News and weather.  
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: With Tony Blair's regular movie feature. Michael Smith has some Christmas food ideas.  
1.45 The Films: children's story. What a Carrot (r).  
2.00 Film: Life with Father (1947). Turn-of-the-century romantic comedy with William Powell and Irene Dunne as the fond parents and Elizabeth Taylor as the upstart of domestic calm.  
3.55 Play School: the story of The Mail Coach. Plus old-fashioned Christmas scenes at Bonhill, Derbyshire.  
4.20 Deputy Dawg: the cartoon Mr. Moots (r).  
4.25 Jackson: Spike Milligan reads part 3 of Help I'm a Prisoner in a Toothpaste Factory, by John Anon.  
4.40 Screen Test: movie quiz. With Gainsborough High School and Newark Magdalen High School.  
5.05 John Craven's Newsround: junior newsreel.

## BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: same as BBC 1, 3.55. Close down at 11.25.  
5.40 pm Laurel and Hardy: 'Fit for Tat'. A sequel to last night's comedy. They Tar Rills, Smiley and Oliver open an electrical shop next door to a grocer's shop run by the same couple involved in the liquor-well complications in Them Tar Rills. One of Laurel and Hardy's most destructive short films.  
6.00 Film: I See Ice (1938). Last in this season of George Formby comedies. George plays a photographer's assistant who becomes an ice-hockey referee.  
7.20 A Bear's Christmas: cartoon.  
7.30 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

## THAMES

9.30 am Secret Diaries: William Tredwell's Daily Journal. The year was 1832. A dramatized documentary about life in those days (r).  
9.55 Dynast: The Great Britain Train Robbery: animated adventure.  
10.15 Family: A Tale Out of Season. Another story about an American family, the Lawrence.  
11.05 Survival Special: Search for the Shimbora. How they extricated the dead and their belongings from a sunken Japanese submarine in the Pacific.  
11.55 The Bubbles: cartoon.  
12.00 Topper's Tales: The late (sorely missed) Julian Orchard tells the story of Father Christmas (r).  
12.10 pm Stepping Stones: the theme is things wooden.  
12.30 The Sullivan: stories of an Australian family in the last war.  
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News.  
1.30 Archangel Theatre: The Limbo Connection. Final episode of Philip Mackie's drama about a missing wife. Starring James Bolan.  
2.00 Afternoon Plus. Includes an exclusive interview with Robert

7.40 A Kind of Childhood: Gamin. Award-winning film (by Ciro Duran) about the beggar children who live in the streets of Bogota, Colombia. It focuses on seven-year-old Pinocchio who sleeps in a cardboard box.  
8.30 Premiere: Weekend. First play to be directed by cameraman John Burrow. It is written by Ian Kennedy Martin. Kenneth Haigh is the playwright, spending a winter weekend at a hotel. Ann Pirbright is the actress who seems to be giving in to him.  
9.00 Kelly Monteith: comedy sketches starring the American comedian. Gabrielle Drake plays his wife.  
9.30 Still Centre: Winchester Cathedral 1079-1979. The private life

## Runcie, the next Archbishop of Canterbury (see Personal Choice).

2.45 The Caledonian Cascade: Alma Cullen's play about a judge's lonely wife (Barbara Murray) who makes a stand against her husband (Iain Cuthbertson) and society generally. A comedy (r).  
3.45 Looks Familiar: show business quiz. With Denis Norden, Bernard Manning, Albert Modley, Norman Vaughan.  
4.15 Project UFO: the mysterious thing that chases two men down a mountain.  
5.15 Mr and Mrs. Derek Bates and his matrimonial quiz game.  
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News.  
6.25 Crossroads: motel series.  
7.00 Tommy Steele's Quincey's Quest: Spectacular musical fable set in a toy store at Christmas time (see Personal Choice).  
8.30 The Jim Davidson Show: Comedy half-hour (r).  
9.00 Fallen Hero: Last part of this serial about a former Rugby League player. Tonight his stepson is accused of murder and he offers to pay for the defence.  
10.00 News.  
10.30 A Famous Journey: Kenneth Griffiths, actor and historical researcher of high repute, goes to the Holy Land, in the steps of the Three Wise Men. He calls the result an agnostic's view of the life of Jesus.  
11.30 Late Night Elkie: Songs from Elkie Brooks with the Humphrey Lyttelton band.  
12.00 What the Papers Say: News review by Bill Tidy, cartoonist.  
12.15 am Close. Another reading, by Andrew Crickhank, from Through the Year with J. B. Phillips.



Barbara Murray: ITV, 2.45.

and the public role of this noble pile (founded by William the Conqueror), from Palm Sunday to the Carol service.  
10.30 Richard Sillages: A light-hearted look at the week's people and events. With Barbara Dickson and classical flute player Elena Duras.  
10.55 News and weather.  
11.10 The Old Grey Whistle Test: Highlights of the concert given at the Wembley Conference Centre earlier this year by Mike Oldfield.  
11.30 The World Tonight.  
11.55-12.15 am Weather.

## Regions

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